

INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION
Public Hearing - Public Comment Session
Regarding the Awarding of a Riverboat Owner License
in Dearborn, Ohio, and Switzerland Counties
Ogle Haus Inn, Vevay, Indiana
Thursday, April 27, 1995

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PUBLIC HEARING - - PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION
REGARDING THE AWARDING OF A RIVERBOAT OWNER LICENSE
BEFORE THE INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION

Thursday, April 27, 1995, 8:20 a.m.

The Ogle Haus Inn, Vevay, Indiana

- - -

CHAIRMAN ALAN KINEMAN: We'll go straight into the public portion. Before we get started, as you probably all know, the Commission had made it a practice to come to the areas and to view the sites where we are anticipating granting licenses and we're very, very happy to be down here in the southeastern corner of Indiana and to meet all of you and to give you an opportunity to address this commission. When we first started, it would have been very easy to sit in Indianapolis the whole time and have people come to us, but we thought it was important to make these trips and we have in every instance gone out to the areas and had public comment concerning our activities and the applicants and also to view the sites. It gives this Commission a much better grasp of



1 the problems and the things that need to be done
2 if we come out to these areas, so it is not
3 convenient, basically, to come, but we think it's
4 important and that's why we're here. It's very
5 exciting, the amount of public activity and
6 participation that has been shown in this area of
7 the state and we certainly appreciate it. We
8 have, as you probably know from viewing our list,
9 which is posted outside the room, we really have
10 quite a massive list of people who wish to
11 address this Commission and we intend to hear
12 everyone; however, as indicated on our
13 information sheet, we have asked that those
14 people who address the Commission limit their
15 comments to five minutes. Now, the Commissioners
16 from time to time have questions of one or more
17 of the presenters and that will not detract from
18 the five minutes that you have to talk. That
19 will be in addition to the five minutes. In
20 other words, we're not going to start asking
21 questions and ruin your whole presentation. So
22 we will have a system which is just being devised
23 now. Since we don't have a trap door to spring
24 when people extend their time, we have developed



1 a system where we have a couple of colors. After
2 you've gone four minutes, you will be shown a
3 yellow card, which would mean it's time to start
4 to the conclusion area and then final, I say, and
5 then we have the red for the stop. So, uh, we
6 don't expect anyone to stop in the middle of a
7 word, but we do try, hopefully, to adhere to our
8 schedule so it will enable us to hear everyone
9 and it will enable us not to wear out completely
10 with the list that we've got to go. So, with
11 those few ground rules, we're ready to commence
12 and I think Mike Jones wishes to address the
13 Commission first.

14 MIKE JONES: My name is Mike Jones, 501 Hill
15 Road, Florence, Indiana. I am President of the Switzerland
16 County Council. And Chairman Kineman, Members of the
17 Indiana Gaming Commission, Executive Director and staff,
18 members of the press, gaming applicants and neighbors from
19 Dearborn and Ohio Counties, on behalf of the people of
20 Switzerland County, I wish to welcome you to the Town of
21 Vevay and to Switzerland County.

22 We in Southeastern Indiana have eagerly awaited
23 this first day of hearings and welcome our opportunity to
24 appear before the Gaming Commission. We sincerely hope
25 that each of you will enjoy your visit to Switzerland



1 County and that you will truly experience firsthand a taste
2 of Southern Indiana hospitality. Thank you and welcome.

3 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. The first item on
4 our agenda is the Switzerland Coalition on
5 Riverboat Excellency - - Excellence, which is
6 SCORE, and they had a number of people and they
7 requested that they be combined for a forty-five
8 minute presentation. We are, I guess, going to
9 hear now from the, uh - - the first one listed
10 on my list is Anita Danner on tourism. If the
11 order is not correct, you can just start right
12 off and - -

13 (Laughter)

14 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: You don't look like Anita
15 Danner.

16 THOMAS CONROY: Thomas Conroy, 14 Swiss Avenue,
17 Vevay, Indiana. In front of you, there is a booklet that
18 we had printed up that you could follow through here and
19 take some notes, if you wish.

20 On behalf of the Switzerland Coalition on
21 Riverboat Excellence, we would like to welcome the
22 Commission and staff to historic Switzerland County for
23 today's riverboat gaming hearings. SCORE also extends it's
24 welcome to our neighbors in Ohio and Dearborn Counties and
25 looks forward to participating in what will surely be a



1 very informative and productive set of hearings.

2 We now have a short video to kind of introduce
3 you to Switzerland and Switzerland County and Vevay.

4 (A video was shown)

5 THOMAS CONROY: When the State Legislature first
6 passed the bill allowing riverboat gaming, I was on the
7 Vevay Town Council. I immediately called the State House
8 for a copy of the statute. The new legislation did not
9 take into consideration that Switzerland County did not
10 have a city, much less a city on the Ohio River. We also
11 ran into several other small problems that needed to be
12 addressed. We hired an attorney and went to work at once.

13 Everyone we turned to said that we did not have
14 a chance. The most encouraging thing that we were told was
15 that Switzerland County was a long shot.

16 Well, that was two years ago and here we are
17 today at the public hearings in Switzerland County with a
18 top notch company, Pinnacle; James Forbes, a top notch
19 manager, an excellent site, plenty of room to cruise in
20 Ohio - - in Indiana waters in the Ohio River, and a group
21 of citizens who can see this through so that the operation
22 will make money for the state, Switzerland County, and,
23 through revenue sharing, the seven surrounding counties.

24 And now, onto our first speaker.

25 ANITA DANNER: Good morning and welcome to



1 Southern Indiana and the warm hospitality of the Ohio
2 River. I'm Anita Danner, number 6 Riverview, Vevay,
3 Indiana.

4 My husband, Mike, and I own and operate the
5 oldest continually operating business on the original site
6 in the State of Indiana. It dates back to 1837. Only
7 occasionally do we feel like that we've been there that
8 long. It was the original store referred to in the video.
9 It is the U.P. Shank Store. So Vevay has longevity, Vevay
10 has stability and Vevay has people that believe in Vevay,
11 Switzerland County.

12 In addition to being creative retailers, I am
13 also on the Tourism Commission. Now, that's the
14 Recreation, Convention and Tourism Commission, but we call
15 it the Tourism Commission. Later on this morning, you're
16 going to hear from Prestine Chapman, who is the Executive
17 Director of our Welcome Center. She's going to give you
18 specifics as to what this commission has done since it was
19 formed three years ago. I'm not going to give you handouts
20 or specifics, but she will, so there's more to come about
21 tourism.

22 The reason why the Tourism Commission was founded
23 three years ago was that we did not want to wait in
24 Switzerland County for somebody to do something for us. We
25 saw a need and we wanted to take care of ourselves as

1 quickly as we could.

2 The Tourism Commission gets its revenue from
3 overnight guests here at the Ogle Haus, so you contributed
4 last night. We also get revenue from a Bed & Breakfast
5 that's in operation and there will be a new Bed & Breakfast
6 opening up this summer, so there's more revenue being
7 generated all the time. And you will also find how busy
8 the Ogle Haus is. So we do have money to spend. That
9 money is turned around to tell others about Indiana's best
10 kept secret, which is Vevay, Switzerland County.

11 We invite people to come here to rest, to
12 recreate, just to enjoy. We have very few heart attacks
13 here, so it's a wonderful place. You probably need to come
14 back here after you've finished your job on this
15 Commission, because we could do alot for you.

16 The Commission has advertised in Kentucky,
17 Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, and our visitor's log attests to
18 the fact that people do come with us. There was a bus that
19 just pulled up behind you - you didn't see that - but
20 there was a bus tour from Chicago that spend the night here
21 last night and was in Switzerland County. So we are
22 drawing people here. We can accomodate them. There are
23 lots of things for them to do and they go away very happy,
24 which is a good thing that we want to share with other
25 people, that Indiana is a wonderful place to be.

1 So what I've said to you so far is that our
2 Tourism Commission is very active, it's doing things. We
3 are helping ourselves to help the merchants in Vevay,
4 Switzerland County, to generate some of our own finances.

5 The other thing that I want to talk about is when
6 the boat comes, what happens with the Tourism Commission.
7 Well, first of all, we would generate more money to do more
8 things for Vevay, Switzerland County, because we would get
9 revenue from each person that goes upon the boat. We will
10 have a welcome center at the boat landing, so that we can
11 come in contact with each of the - - uh, person that gets
12 on the boat or gets off the boat. We will be providing
13 shuttle services, so that they can come into Vevay and shop
14 at the local merchants. There will be bus tours, so that
15 you could go out in the county and tour things, like round
16 barns. How many of you have seen a round barn? How many
17 of you have seen a hay press? All of those things are
18 available here. Maybe some of you don't want to know about
19 that. Well, you don't have to go, but it's available.

20 But it's not just - - We don't want people just
21 to come to Vevay, Switzerland County, and think that all
22 there is to do is to get on a boat. We want them to do
23 that, but there's lots of other things, too. And that's
24 the job of the Tourism Commission to provide family
25 recreation or even senior citizen recreation, too, so that



1 they enjoy themselves and they want to come back.

2 That also leads me to part of my discussion is,
3 what if the boat leaves? There's no guarantee that these
4 things are going to last forever. So what happens if they
5 leave? Well, we still have a very active, forceful tourism
6 committee, who will continue to talk to others about Vevay,
7 Switzerland County. We will continue to invite people
8 here. We will also have revenue put back from the time
9 that the boat was here. So I see no problem with the
10 Tourism Commission now, when the boat comes, and if the
11 boat should leave.

12 I thank you for your time, I thank you for your
13 patience. And I know that you are going to have some extra
14 time today and tomorrow. I expect to see you on the
15 streets of Vevay shopping and we would gladly take care of
16 you. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse us. Mrs. Danner, I
18 think we have a question.

19 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: I just have one. The
20 commission that you're with, is that Vevay or the
21 county?

22 MRS. DANNER: It's the Recreation, Convention and
23 Tourism Bureau of Switzerland County.

24 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Any other questions? Thank
25 you.



1 JOHN JOHNSON: Good morning and welcome to Vevay.
2 I'm John Johnson. I'm Sheriff of Switzerland County.
3 Prior to being Sheriff, I served twenty-one years with the
4 Indiana State Police, a career that was all served here in
5 Switzerland County.

6 I'm originally from Bartholomew County, which is
7 a flat, farming area. I came here; the hills, the river,
8 it all intrigued me. I loved it and I stayed. I made my
9 home here.

10 The twenty-one years that I stayed with the State
11 Police here, I saw pre- and post-1978, which was when the
12 bridge was built, in 1978. Prior to 1978, the population
13 of this county was somewhere around fifty-five hundred
14 people. The traffic was sparse. I had a hard time getting
15 my activity that I was required to get. (Laughter)
16 However, I stayed here, I tried to do the best I could - -
17 (Laughter)

18 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We've all met alot of people
19 who were trying to do the best they could.
20 (Laughter)

21 JOHN JOHNSON: I've also seen - - I've also
22 seen the economics of this county change since the bridge.
23 The bridge has brought alot to us and we have gotten to go
24 to alot of other things that the bridge opened up to us.

25 We have two hundred and twenty-one square miles

1 in this county and every bit of it I've been over many
2 times in that twenty-one years.

3 I've also seen the need for extra police. I've
4 seen the need for extra law enforcement. I've seen the
5 need develop since the bridge and, especially in the last
6 three to five years, the influx of people.

7 I want to talk to you a little bit about the
8 preparedness that we have, a plan on paper. The three
9 basic services that government should provide to their
10 citizens is fire, EMS service, and police.

11 The EMS service, I've seen in twenty-one years,
12 go from a 1957 Cadillac station wagon, that when they'd
13 arrive on the scene of an accident, throw them on a
14 stretcher, slam them in the back of it, and haul them off
15 to the hospital. I've seen the EMS come from that to the
16 equipment they have now, the training they have now, the
17 EMT's, paramedics.

18 I've seen the fire departments go from old
19 pumpers, old equipment, to, I think there are five now in
20 the county and three new fire departments that have been
21 built in the last few years.

22 The preparedness program that I've got includes
23 a mutual aid program that will include the surrounding
24 counties, Ohio County, Ripley County and Jefferson County,
25 also from across the river, Carroll County and Gallatin



1 County.

2 Several years back, we had a brush fire in this
3 county that some may recall - we made the Indianapolis
4 Star on this one - burnt about a thousand acres of this
5 county. We had fire departments come into this county from
6 Carrollton, Kentucky, Warsaw, as far north as Batesville,
7 Lawrenceburg, Jefferson County. There were many, many
8 people that came in here to co-op to fight this fire. This
9 is the type of thing, should an emergency occur, that we
10 will have a plan and we will be prepared for that.

11 The professional development that I am going to
12 require from my people is, of course I'm going to have to
13 have additional people. That's going to be required.
14 There's no way around that, because of the population
15 growth, because of the tourists that are going to be coming
16 here, the increased traffic. We're going to have to have
17 alot of training to respond to calls. Speaking of the
18 training, I'm requiring my people to have some of the best
19 training that they can possibly get. Even the volunteers,
20 the reserve deputies that I have, I'm requiring them to
21 take certain training before I allow them to work.

22 I have this plan on paper. I've got this plan
23 for the personnel, I have a plan for the equipment, I have
24 the plans for the procedures and the regulations to go
25 along with this. There will be a control.



1 Ladies and gentlemen of the Commission, we are
2 ready, on paper, as you will see at your meeting the 15th
3 of May, I believe, you will be getting a copy of this. We
4 are ready to implement any action necessary for any growth
5 situation, should it be industrial, recreational, or
6 tourism. Ladies and gentlemen, I submit to you that we in
7 Switzerland County are prepared. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Sheriff. Any
9 questions? Good morning.

10 HANK McLAIN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Members
11 of the Commission. Hank McLain, 306 West Market Street,
12 Vevay, Indiana. I'm President of the Vevay Historic Review
13 Board.

14 In Easter of 1986, my wife, Barbara, and I made
15 our first trip to Vevay. We were taking one of those long
16 weekend vacations to Southern Indiana from our home in
17 Anderson. While slowly driving down Market Street and
18 admiring the houses, I spotted a guy carrying a ladder.
19 That's always too good for an old house person to pass, so
20 I stopped and asked one of those questions that opens
21 things up. We ended up touring three fantastic houses, all
22 in need of care.

23 Well, again on Easter, back in 1992, Barbara and
24 I were staying here at the Ogle Haus, another one of those
25 long weekends. While again going down Market Street, we



1 spotted a sign in a window, Historic House For Sale. It
2 was the home that we'd been so smitten by back on that
3 other Easter in 1986. Fate or whatever drove us and on
4 June 19th we signed the final papers for the house at 306
5 and it's neighbor, 304, a package deal. We now had two
6 houses with years of neglect, but all the extrinsic and
7 intrinsic values that any preservationist could ever want.

8 Why did we choose Vevay? Location. A wonderful
9 setting on the river bypassed by urban renewal. A quick
10 trip across the bridge at Markland, we're an hour from
11 Cincinnati, an hour from Louisville, two hours from
12 Lexington, or back here, if I go north, I'm two hours from
13 Indianapolis. The symphony, the operas, the theater, the
14 fine restaurants, book stores, all the amenities of a large
15 urban area without the problems.

16 We're really lucky in Vevay, in that we have the
17 things that preservation tourism touts - - a place of
18 tranquility, a place to escape the ordinary, a slower paced
19 lifestyle. I feel as if I live at the summit and have the
20 world at my feet here. Vevay is a natural treasure in a
21 benign setting.

22 According to the Switzerland County report of the
23 Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, Vevay has
24 over three hundred structures that were built prior to
25 1900. Recognizing that preservation is an effective tool



1 for managing growth, for revitalizing towns, to help
2 maintain community character and to foster local pride, a
3 group of the people on Market Street, working with other
4 residents of Vevay, began discussions with the Town Board
5 about historic preservation in Vevay. After public
6 meetings and working with the Historic Landmarks of
7 Indiana, the Vevay Town Board passed a historic
8 preservation ordinance. We've been working, recognizing
9 sites since that time, and under the historic - - or the -
10 - pardon me - - under the Vevay Historic Review Board.

11 In the past few years, a third of the houses on
12 Market Street have undergone extensive renovation. We, at
13 present, have a large 1881 Italianate overlooking the river
14 that will have an adaptive reuse, opening this year as a B
15 & B, even as restoration continues.

16 John Ruskin, the nineteenth century English
17 artist-writer-critic, wrote: Great nations write their
18 autobiographies in three manuscripts, the book of their
19 deeds, the book of their words, and the book of their art.
20 Not one of these books can be understood unless we read the
21 two others. But of the three, the only trustworthy one is
22 the last.

23 Preservation helps us not only to remember what
24 we were, it helps us to understand who we are.
25 Preservation really means we hang onto something because



1 it's good to look at, it works, and because it's a link to
2 a past that we need to remember.

3 In Vevay, we need not only to remember the town,
4 but the river. It links us to our past. It brought us our
5 past and now the river can help bring us our future. Thank
6 you.

7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

8 QUESTION BY ANN BOCHNOWSKI: I do have a
9 question.

10 MR. McLAIN: Yeah?

11 MS. BOCHNOWSKI: Since you're so - - you seem to
12 enjoy the fact that this has been - - this town
13 has been bypassed by development, doesn't it
14 concern you about what a riverboat operation
15 would do to the town?

16 MR. McLAIN: No. Why? I'm a realist. We have
17 beautiful homes, we have buildings. They have to
18 be more, though, than just something to look at.
19 Adaptive reuse, such as with this large
20 Italianate, turning it into a B & B, and, of
21 course, the Danner's store, which has operated
22 since 1836, some things will change, some things
23 will stay the same.

24 QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Is, uh - - Are
25 you going to be involved with the - - if a boat

1 came to Vevay, would you be involved, as a
2 society or an organization, making sure that they
3 meet specific historic standards?

4 MR. McLAIN: Anything that has historic values,
5 yes, we certainly will.

6 ROBERT SUNDWICK: You certainly don't want big
7 neon signs at both ends of your town?

8 MR. McLAIN: No, we don't want big neon signs at
9 the ends of the town.

10 ROBERT SUNDWICK: Are you going to be able to
11 control that?

12 MR. McLAIN: Uh, as you'll hear later on, there
13 is a county-wide zoning that's taking place.
14 Now, within the historic districts, obviously,
15 under an ordinance you can control it. Outside
16 of that, though, that should be controlled then
17 by the county wide zoning. See, we have county
18 wide zoning which will also include Vevay and
19 Patriot, and one of the later speakers, Mr.
20 Brammer, will address that.

21 ROBERT SUNDWICK: Okay, thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Anything else? Thank you.

23 MR. McLAIN: Thank you.

24 CHARLES OVERBEY: Charles Overbey, 317 Ferry
25 Street, Vevay. I serve as Executive Vice-president of the



1 Vevay - Switzerland County Foundation.

2 In my remarks this morning, I will talk about the
3 development activities that have occurred in this community
4 and how this experience has helped prepare us for the
5 possibility of riverboat gaming.

6 In the last fifteen years, an effective, public -
7 private partnership has made a sizeable investment in
8 Switzerland County's future. This investment program has
9 been designed to help create jobs and expand the tax base.
10 But more importantly, it has given the citizens of Vevay
11 and Switzerland County a renewed faith, a source of pride
12 and a very positive attitude. I hope to convey to you
13 today that the citizens of this community have the
14 experience, the capacity and the desire to help support the
15 development and ongoing operation of a first class
16 riverboat project such as that proposed by Pinnacle Gaming
17 Development Corporation.

18 Our community was greatly benefited when native
19 son and philanthropist Paul Ogle decided to share his
20 wealth to help his hometown in an effort to strengthen and
21 diversify its local economy. Mr. Ogle, along with local
22 civic leaders, created Vevay - Switzerland County
23 Foundation, a non-profit, charitable purpose organization
24 with a clear and focused mission, to preserve, create and
25 promote our architectural heritage, to aid in the



1 continuing improvements of the community for its citizens
2 and to assist local government and it's agencies in a way
3 that would lessen the burden of government upon its
4 citizens.

5 The foundation, created in 1979, with a local
6 board of directors, became a catalyst for community change
7 while serving as a conduit for Mr. Ogle's generous giving.
8 The vision he created for his hometown helped energize the
9 community. They responded with the same hard work,
10 cooperation and determination that our Swiss forefathers
11 exhibited in our early development.

12 The foundation, in partnership with local
13 government and the community, embarked on a long term
14 development strategy with tourism as it's centerpiece.
15 This strategy was selected because of the beauty of the
16 hills and the river, our cultural heritage, rich history
17 and abundant architecture, and the ever important proximity
18 to urban markets, all within an easy commute.

19 In the early eighties, a series of projects were
20 planned and implemented by the community. A downtown
21 revitalization program provided new sidewalks, trees and
22 streetlights. This was followed by a building facade
23 improvement program where virtually every downtown building
24 received some restoration assistance.

25 In the mid-eighties, the foundation provided a



1 capital construction grant program to several local
2 organizations. Funds were given to local fire departments,
3 emergency medical services, county churches, our two
4 incorporated towns, as well as others.

5 By 1985, our initial development efforts were
6 complete, but it was during this time that discussions with
7 travel and tourist experts indicated a real need for a
8 hotel or a motel to help support those development efforts.
9 With the exception of local bed and breakfast inns, our
10 county had no hotel or motel. Mr. Ogle, never being
11 daunted by details, decided that if a hotel was what his
12 community needed to carry forth it's vision, a hotel it
13 would have. Today the Ogle Haus Inn serves as this
14 community's crown jewel, providing excellent accomodations
15 and ammenities for thousands of tourists and visitors. The
16 Ogle Haus Inn is the first contact that many newcomers and
17 visitors have with our community and we believe that it
18 leaves them with a favorable impression that encourages
19 repeat visits. The Ogle Haus Inn has also helped encourage
20 the development of other shops, restaurants and
21 attractions. Altogether, this development has become an
22 important source of new jobs and also helping to expand our
23 tax base.

24 More recently, and in the past four years, a
25 series of community projects have been developed and



1 implemented to improve our quality of life. These major
2 projects include the Vevay and Markland Dam Riverfront
3 Parks, a new public library, courthouse restoration, an
4 adaptive reuse of the old Carnegie Library into the new
5 Town Hall, five water and sewer projects throughout the
6 county and a new riverfront subdivision that's nearing
7 completion.

8 In the conclusion, I believe that we have been
9 preparing for this opportunity for some fifteen years. We
10 simply did not know that it might come in the form of
11 riverboat gaming. An article in your packet from the
12 Indiana Department of Commerce profiled our efforts three
13 years ago. In that publication they stated: the
14 determination, hard work and cooperation of this community
15 should bring Vevay out of the rough, in time, and turn it
16 into Indiana's - - one of Indiana's tourism hotbeds, for
17 there is a sense of contagious excitement in this charming
18 community that can only foster significant accomplishments.
19 We agree with that assessment. Awarding Switzerland
20 County a license would certainly be a stroke of goodluck
21 for us, but there is a saying that luck comes to those who
22 prepare for it. Mr. Commissioner - - Mr. Chairman,
23 Commissioners, I believe that Vevay and Switzerland County
24 are prepared and the citizens of this community will do all
25 to endeavor that if you should award us a license that it



1 will be successful and a viable proposition. Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

3 ROSE HARBERT: Rose Harbert, 33 Tague Road,
4 Vevay, Switzerland County, USA. Good morning.

5 My husband and I own and operate two businesses
6 here in Vevay. (Microphone fell) I guess I got your
7 attention. (Laughter)

8 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We do have a, uh - -

9 MS. HARBERT: Technical problem here. I won't
10 touch it.

11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: You want to come up and check
12 it? We'll, uh . . .

13 MS. HARBERT: Again, good morning. One of the
14 most difficult things I think I've ever had to do is to put
15 into words the love and the pride I feel for Switzerland
16 County and to say it in a span of four minutes. It has
17 often been said Switzerland County is Indiana's best-kept
18 secret.

19 I would like to share with you this morning how
20 Bill and I discovered Switzerland County and how we became
21 part of the business community and my hopes for our
22 county's future.

23 Thirty years ago, before I met Bill, he and
24 several fishing buddies came to Switzerland County after
25 reading in Field and Stream magazine about the great



1 catfishing at Markland Dam. The next few years they made
2 many trips - - weekend trips here to boat and fish the
3 Ohio River.

4 My first trip to Vevay was in 1970 for the Swiss
5 Wine Festival, along with a hundred thousand other people.
6 At the time, Switzerland County's only mode across the - -
7 transportation across the Ohio River was by ferryboat. One
8 was upriver above Florence - - above the dam at Florence,
9 and the other one here in Vevay.

10 At the time Bill and I married in 1972, we
11 resided in Fountain County. It's located seventy miles
12 west of Indianapolis on Interstate 74. Later that summer
13 we established a weekend residence here in Switzerland
14 County. For years, both summer and winter, we spent every
15 available weekend here. We travelled from the banks of the
16 Wabash to the banks of the Ohio, one hundred and eighty-
17 five miles one way. We always looked forward to our trips
18 to Vevay on Fridays and always dreaded the trip home on
19 Sunday evening. We were never ready for the weekend to
20 finish.

21 By 1985, we owned and operated three business in
22 Fountain County and in February of that year we opened our
23 fourth business here in Vevay. Although there were
24 seventeen empty buildings in Vevay's business district at
25 the time, we felt very positive about it's future.



1 For over two years we commuted weekly between our
2 businesses. Those two years changed the course of our
3 lives. During that time, we sold our businesses and our
4 home in Fountain County, built a new house, and in October
5 1988 we made Switzerland County our home.

6 Six years ago this month, I opened our second
7 business here in Vevay, a candy and gift shop. Over the
8 years, each of our businesses have relocated to larger
9 locations here in town. The growth in my business is
10 attributed directly to the growth in tourism. The tourist
11 dollar accounts for over fifty percent of my business. I
12 invite visitors in my store to sign a registry and it's
13 quite interesting where they're from. I've had visitors
14 from Australia, England, Switzerland, Scotland, Germany,
15 Japan and all states across the United States, from east
16 coast to west.

17 Over the last thirty years, we have seen
18 tremendous changes and progress in Switzerland County. To
19 mention a few, the building of the bridge over Markland
20 Dam, giving us access to Interstate 71 and making
21 Cincinnati and Louisville nextdoor neighbors; the
22 construction of our beautiful Ogle Haus Inn; the
23 development of year round tourism; witnessing the growth
24 of the business community, with Vevay's newest business
25 opening it's doors tomorrow; and last, but not least, the



1 opportunity for riverboat gaming.

2 The last two years, by far, have been the most
3 interesting and exciting. Riverboat gaming will provide
4 great growth potential for the entire business community of
5 Switzerland County.

6 Mr. Forbes and his associates have attended
7 numerous meetings with local business owners. From the
8 beginning, Pinnacle Gaming was willing to share with us
9 their plans for this unique project. James welcomed our
10 many, many questions and he listened to our - - and most
11 importantly, they listened to our ideas and our
12 suggestions.

13 I feel Pinnacle will be a tremendous asset to
14 Switzerland County's business community. A riverboat in
15 Switzerland County will provide needed employment
16 opportunities. A riverboat - - The addition of a
17 riverboat will make Switzerland County a premier tourist
18 destination. A riverboat will create the demand for new
19 businesses and services to meet the many needs of our
20 tourists and residents alike. Instead of seventeen empty
21 businesses, which we once had, there will be seventeen new
22 businesses. The day you grant Switzerland County a
23 riverboat license, it can be said, once upon a time
24 Switzerland County was Indiana's best-kept secret. Thank
25 you.



1 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

2 JOHN KEETON: My name is John Keeton. I'm the
3 President of the Chamber of Commerce here in Switzerland
4 County. I live at 686 Highway 129 with a Vevay address.
5 And thanks for this opportunity.

6 Switzerland County is unique from the land
7 terrain standpoint, the people and the rural attitudes.
8 The consideration for applying for and the potential
9 attraction of a gaming boat has truly challenged this
10 county and it's leadership. Rural communities consistently
11 lack the wide range of individuals that will serve, be
12 involved, visionary and that are willing to step forward
13 and provide the necessary commitment to serve it's local
14 organizations. The number of individuals that have been
15 mobilized into committee work and involved with the gaming
16 issues have been surprisingly large. A leadership two
17 thousand program, a five day comprehensive program with
18 speakers and interaction, saw fourteen Switzerland County
19 individuals involved and completing the training. They
20 paid two-thirds of the cost and now have the tools to help
21 with supplying needed leadership.

22 The infrastructure of this county of this county
23 has been neglected for years. Improvement in roads,
24 sewers, gas lines, schools, public library and the
25 courthouse are only a few that our committees are presently



1 working and attacking with vigor. The county has lots to
2 offer to a growing tourist industry and the added jobs
3 would be received with great enthusiasm to the local
4 public. This county cannot and will not go back to the
5 attitudes of the past number of years. Whether this vote
6 comes to our party or not, this county has changed it's
7 complexion for the future.

8 Switzerland County has a great work ethic coming
9 from a very rich heritage. On a given day you may see Dale
10 Andrews with his team of Belgian horses plowing tobacco,
11 the Gerrard families with their Amish buggies on Highway
12 129, or Bruce Hutcherson's thirty foot head combine. You
13 know that it's a rural community and the friendliness by
14 the number of people that show up for funerals. The number
15 of part-time farmers that daily give of their working time
16 are truly examples of a long history of working values.

17 This county realizes that the potential strength
18 and weaknesses of a gaming boat and the created jobs, the
19 leadership is committed to focusing on long term and long
20 range planning process. I have heard leaders express short
21 and long term goals for continuing before, during and after
22 the boat. This chamber will continue to encompass the
23 entire community and it's needs. The blunt recognition of
24 what this geographical area has to offer is one result of
25 the discussion and dialogue that's taken place for the past



1 two years. The negative attitudes that have prevailed for
2 a long time, that nothing will ever happen to Switzerland
3 County or Vevay, is in the process of change. Many
4 individuals are convinced that we can decide our future and
5 destiny.

6 I have visited with the President of the Dearborn
7 County Chamber and Ohio County Business and Professional
8 Organization to plan an after-boat party to bring these
9 three communities back into a friendly and cooperative
10 spirit. Southeastern Indiana must realize our strengths
11 and market these in the spirit of friendship and vision into
12 the twenty-first century. This county has strengthened
13 it's attitudes and resources, never to return, and these
14 committed citizens are facing the future.

15 I'm on a national committee that is organizing in
16 1997, we're going to have three thousand people at a
17 national convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. It's a three
18 state initiative that we will have people from that coming
19 to Switzerland County.

20 The one thing that I have on my little name tag
21 that I think very much represents Switzerland County, it
22 says Mission Possible, Uniqueness with Unity. Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. SCORE is sort of
24 running out of time here. Uh, is there somebody
25 who we could talk to about, uh - - You have



1 about five, six minutes total left out of the
2 forty-five. We don't want to miss any of your
3 important presenters, but how much more time do
4 you think you need over and above your forty-
5 five?

6 THOMAS CONROY: Twelve or fifteen minutes.

7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Well, in other words,
8 you would run about twenty minutes more from
9 right now?

10 THOMAS CONROY: Yes.

11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Well, uh, is that
12 alright with the Commission?

13 (Commission members indicated agreement to the
14 additional twenty minutes)

15 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Well, why don't you go
16 ahead and try to - - Yeah, well, see, we'll
17 back everybody up if we don't, so the twenty
18 minutes, I think, can work out, but if you'd make
19 sure that we live by that, so that would put us
20 at about nine-thirty or a little past.

21 THOMAS CONROY: Then we'll go for twenty more
22 minutes.

23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.

24 DON RICHARDSON: Okay. Good morning. My name is
25 Don Richardson. I am the Executive Director of a not-for-



1 profit organization named River Valley Resources and I'll
2 try to skip over the, uh, fluff and take this right to the
3 heart of it.

4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: That's what we want.

5 DON RICHARDSON: Yeah. Here in Switzerland
6 County and ten other counties which make up Southeastern
7 Indiana, I manage a number of employee training programs,
8 including the Job Training Partnership Act and
9 (indiscernible), better known as the Employment Service.
10 I work with an organization named River Valley Resources
11 headquartered in Madison, and, in fact, the services we
12 provide are applicable to all three of the communities who
13 are going to be appearing before you here today. So
14 politically and honestly, I have to say that I'm speaking
15 in behalf of everybody. I do have a kind of a special
16 feeling for Switzerland County, having years of good
17 support and having witnessed what these people in this
18 county can do, how they can call upon their resources and
19 pull things together and make things happen, and what I'm
20 skipping here are some of the examples of that, hoping
21 other people can represent that as they make their
22 presentations to you here today.

23 What we do and the investment that we make in
24 this process is to first meet with operators of the
25 riverboat you are about to approve for operation. We



1 conduct a task analysis of the essential jobs that make up
2 that operation, including jobs that are peripheral to the
3 operation, but that inevitably occur when you have an
4 enterprise of this magnitude moving into a community. We
5 try to find out what kind of academic skills are required,
6 what kind of personal and technical skills are required, we
7 develop a recruitment plan, we develop a legally defensible
8 assessment and selection, instrument and process, and get
9 on with the business of trying to identify right applicants
10 for the job. We have a real good history of this. Some
11 people that we identify will be right and ready, straight
12 ahead off the top. Some will be ripe for employment. Some
13 of the jobs that are created will require training and
14 preparation and we do that. Some - - the minority, in my
15 experience - - won't have a prayer, but our objective
16 would be that, come opening day, working with all of these
17 communities, there would be a ripe and ready work force
18 available to get on with the job.

19 Of importance to me, to you, I will assume, and
20 to the local folks who are speaking with you during your
21 visit here, our focus will be targeted exclusively to
22 insuring that Hoosiers get the first shot at these
23 opportunities. People here in Switzerland County and folks
24 in Dearborn and Ohio County have a solid work ethic that
25 was mentioned earlier - I've witnessed it for twenty years



1 .- the sort of value and self-sufficiency which seems
2 endangered, if you watch television, in alot of communities
3 around the country. The community leaders, educators,
4 employers, elected officials and others in this community
5 have a strong commitment to excellence and a proven ability
6 to bring together the resources necessary to get the job
7 done. I have had a good experience. People here take
8 their value from hard work, from a job well done, from
9 loyalty spanning generations, from a common vision and I am
10 confident, based on my experience, that these folks can
11 pull it off. I have the capacity from one day to the next
12 and the necessity to call Betty Bovard at our office here
13 in Vevay, to call Teresa Link, who will be speaking with
14 you in a few minutes, Chuck Overbey you met earlier, Tom
15 Conroy, and I ask them for advice or assistance and they
16 can respond. I've never been let down and I've seen these
17 people pull some things together that I consider to be
18 virtually impossible.

19 The vision of the job opportunities that will be
20 created and the opportunity to participate and help to
21 support and make that work excites me and I welcome you all
22 to hear the various presentations and make a good decision
23 and am confident that you will. Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

25 QUESTION BY DAVID ROSS: Question, sir.



1 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes?

2 DAVID ROSS: Is your training service, has that
3 been ongoing or has that primarily started
4 because of the casino?

5 MR. RICHARDSON: No, we have been in business for
6 about twenty years in one form or another
7 administering JTPA, as I mentioned, the
8 employment service, and we've worked with
9 probably a hundred and fifty, two hundred
10 business start ups in Southeastern Indiana
11 overall. Most of the services are at no cost, so
12 we do have a good and a successful history of
13 doing that.

14 MR. ROSS: Thank you.

15 EARL CONNER: My name is Earl Conner. I'm a
16 life-long resident of Switzerland County. I live in York
17 Township.

18 I would like to say a few words about my area,
19 Florence, which was settled in the year 1800 and originally
20 was New York. It was a typical rivertown, farming the main
21 operation. When I first came to Florence, they had three
22 stores, a barber shop, post office, church and a garage, at
23 one time, even a bank. It was a thriving little town. I
24 have seen the change from gravel to blacktop roads.

25 I believe a riverboat can bring new life to



1 Florence and the county as a whole. I have worked with Mr.
2 Forbes and his associates from the start of this project.
3 Florence and York Township voted this in by sixty-three
4 percent, the widest margin for the county. I also feel
5 that people that don't gamble can enjoy the facilities of
6 the compound and the county can be proud of. Mr. Forbes
7 has stated he will be a good friend and neighbor to the
8 area and the surrounding communities.

9 We already are onto the process of getting a new
10 sewage project started in Florence and the surrounding
11 area. We are now getting ready for the boat project and,
12 in my opinion, it will be the greatest outfit this county
13 will ever have in the - - with the Markland Dam and the
14 Kentucky traffic. I can see great things for Switzerland
15 County and the surrounding areas. Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

17 TERESA BOVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
18 Commission and staff members. I'm Teresa Bovard. I think
19 Don Richardson mentioned that I was Teresa Link, but I'll
20 answer to anything. I live at 10 Waterfront Drive,
21 Florence, Indiana, with my daughter, Annie. My home is one
22 mile west of the Markland Bridge. Switzerland County has
23 been my home for a lifetime.

24 In 1989, I decided to stay in Switzerland County
25 and become the owner and broker of a real estate company,



1 instead of accepting a job with the Internal Revenue
2 Service. Now, there are three of my family members and
3 others working with me in the business. I negotiated the
4 property options for the riverboat site here in Switzerland
5 County and I believe that thirty-six miles of riverfront
6 will be an advantage to attracting other business. I have
7 seen some increase in value since the referendum a year and
8 a half ago; up to twenty percent on homes and up to sixty-
9 five percent on unimproved property.

10 I'm trying to hurry through this.

11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Take your time.

12 MS. BOVARD: Okay. I believe that we can see
13 another increase when the boat is placed in Switzerland
14 County, maybe even up to fifty percent. We have several
15 large tracts of land in the county that we have had alot of
16 interest in since the referendum passed.

17 According to the Indiana State Board of Accounts,
18 Switzerland County has one of the state's lowest tax bases
19 of only around forty-three million dollars, yet we have the
20 third highest rate in the state, surpassed only by Lake and
21 Delaware Counties.

22 We have clients from Cincinnati, northern Indiana
23 and Kentucky calling our office on a daily basis.

24 And I want to thank you for your consideration in
25 giving - - or awarding Switzerland County a boat. Thank



1 you.

2 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

3 CRAIG BOND: Good morning. Craig Bond. I live
4 at 38 Concord Road, Patriot, Indiana, six miles east of the
5 bridge, four miles east of the proposed complex. I own and
6 operate J & J Enterprises. We are an ICC authorized
7 contract carrier operating in forty-eight states and
8 Canada. I'm a former employee of the Indiana Department of
9 Transportation, having resigned my position as a rural sub-
10 district manager in October 1994 to devote full time to my
11 own business.

12 What impact will a riverboat in Switzerland
13 County have on transportation issues pertaining to INDOT?
14 First, we must realize that the need to build is monitored
15 continuously. This is accomplished by traffic count,
16 physical inspections and, most of all, anything that would
17 endanger the safety of the motoring public.

18 Traffic counts are performed at locations thought
19 to be average for the area in review. I'm sure all of you
20 have noticed those rubber hoses stretched across the roads
21 with the little box tied on the end of them? They were
22 counting traffic. In some of the most recent counts on
23 Highway 56 at the Markland Dam, in one twenty-four hour
24 period twenty-three hundred and ten vehicles were counted.
25 In that same twenty-four hour period on Route 50 in



1 Dearborn County thirty-three thousand, eight hundred eighty
2 vehicles were counted. Switzerland County needs productive
3 traffic.

4 State highways are built and maintained solely
5 from gasoline and fuel taxes, so the more vehicles we have
6 coming this way, the more tax money we're going to have
7 available. A license in Switzerland County will definitely
8 help to improve the highway system in Southeastern Indiana,
9 thus opening the door for other business and industry to
10 follow.

11 Thanks to the efforts of our local tourism
12 bureau, Switzerland County has experienced some traffic
13 increase in recent years, resulting in several
14 improvements. Some projects scheduled for '95 and '96
15 include the resurface of 156 from Vevay, east of the
16 junction of Highway 56, an estimated cost of over two
17 million dollars. Replacement of two bridges, one just west
18 of town, Indian Creek, between here and Madison. the other
19 over Green Valley Creek, another seven miles on down the
20 river, another two million dollars. On Highway 250, just
21 west of Patriot, a couple of bridges, over eight hundred
22 and sixty-five thousand. Erosion and landslide control
23 along the river, 156, just in Switzerland County alone,
24 over three million dollars have been allotted for the next
25 two years. And in the planning stages now, the



1 realignment of State Route 129 from Highway 250 in Pleasant
2 to 56, just east of town.

3 Although I'm no longer a part of INDOT, you can
4 rest assured they will respond to any needs that burden our
5 highway system or affect the safety of the motoring public.

6 In closing, I want you to know, Switzerland
7 County needs a riverboat. Switzerland County wants a
8 riverboat. Our willingness to share our resources with
9 seven counties of region twelve will make the State of
10 Indiana proud of Switzerland County when a license is
11 issued here. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

13 TOM RICHARDSON: Good morning. I'm Tom
14 Richardson. My wife, Judy, and I own a home at 503 West
15 Market Street and a business address of 106 East Main
16 Street, both here in Vevay. We've lived in Vevay for seven
17 years and have been in business here for four.

18 We came here from Northern Kentucky because we
19 liked what we found in Switzerland County. Few places
20 remain that afford the opportunity to live among nineteenth
21 century architectural treasure and at the same time provide
22 ready access to metropolitan areas within approximately one
23 hour. Every effort should be made to ensure that this
24 uniqueness is protected, because few places on this earth
25 have the natural beauty of Switzerland County.



1 Judy and I selected Vevay as a location for our
2 business because it's our home and because of the
3 availability of labor. One only has to drive to Vevay one
4 time to realize that we are not situated at the
5 transportation hub of the nation. However, our business
6 requires that in order to provide the service to our
7 customer, the product must be transported to Vevay daily.
8 This material movement for us requires trucks travelling
9 daily to Ohio and Kentucky, sometimes twice daily to each
10 location. The daily transportation of material in raw and
11 finished state has never been interrupted in the four years
12 of our business existence due to road conditions or
13 weather. Improved roads would be great for this area, but
14 existing road conditions will not prevent us from providing
15 work for our thirty-five employees.

16 Thank you for your attention.

17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

18 LEROY BRAMMER: My name's Leroy Brammer, 1447
19 Highway 156, Patriot, Indiana. Good morning and welcome to
20 Switzerland County. I'm President of the Switzerland
21 County Area Planning Commission, and also serve on the
22 zoning appeals board. I would like to give you a brief
23 outlook of the zoning board in Switzerland County.

24 The zoning in Switzerland County was truly last
25 updated in 1972. As of the first of February, '95, Harry



1 Sheridan of Metropolitan Planners Incorporated of
2 Indianapolis was given a one year contract to help both
3 boards write and update our zoning laws and ordinance.
4 (indiscernible) by National Department of Resources in 1994
5 and they asked our riverfront, including flood plain,
6 waterways, be changed to comply with their standards.
7 March the 1st, 1995, the county commission passed a new
8 ordinance to help comply with these requests. The area
9 planning commission voted and passed a building code
10 ordinance. The county commissioners will have a hearing on
11 this ordinance May the 1st, 1995. If this passes, the
12 county building codes will be the same as the state
13 building codes. We now have an executive secretary and
14 hope by July the 1st, 1995, when we have additional funds,
15 we will hire a full time building inspector.

16 Switzerland County, Vevay, Patriot was
17 established as one area planning department in the early
18 sixties. Our population in Switzerland County has
19 increased from six thousand, three hundred and six to seven
20 thousand, seven hundred and thirty-eight from 1970 to 1990.
21 Now, with the population on the upswing, along with other
22 trends, there is a great need for the citizens of
23 Switzerland County to renew their planning and zoning
24 efforts in order to accomplish the following objectives.
25 The highway system be carefully planned.



1 We are going to do of our roads existing
2 proposals which roads would be approved first.

3 Second, that new developments grow only with
4 accurate public (indiscerible), utility, health, education
5 and recreation facilities. With the population on the
6 increase, there will be more demand for housing
7 developments. How they are developed should not be left to
8 chance. We must have plans in place to provide the proper
9 growth.

10 That the needs of agriculture industry and
11 business be recognized in future growth (indiscernible) we
12 have in this county and the area subject to flooding,
13 (indiscernible) is becoming a precious commodity. We must
14 protect the agriculture pursuit with compromise and basic
15 use of this land. Industry certainly cannot be ignored in
16 the planning process, preserving what we already have and
17 providing for expansion of new development. And business
18 expansion, this is a real planning task, especially when it
19 is not know if the gambling industry will end up here in
20 our county or possibly nearby.

21 Four, that resident area provide helpful
22 (indiscernible) for family life, the task here is to
23 preserve the good things and eliminate the undesirable
24 conditions that growth of the community (indiscernible) and
25 public lands.



1 Well, this is the task that the Area Planning
2 Commission is looking forward to doing. We want to combine
3 all five of these objections into a (indiscernible) plan
4 for Switzerland County, a plan that people in this county
5 wants, and a new zoning code would be developed to help
6 make the plan a reality. We have given ourselves one year
7 to get this done. We think this is a plus for Switzerland
8 County. Since we our writing our new codes to update the
9 county if riverboat gambling comes to the county we are in
10 the position to have good zoning laws. Thank you.

11 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I have
12 a quick question. You do have county wide zoning
13 presently, is that correct?

14 MR. BRAMMER: Yes, it was rewritten in 1972 and
15 has been a few updates in that time, but by the
16 end of the - - the first of February of next
17 year, we will have a complete new zoning as
18 required by the state and what the county people
19 require.

20 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. But you can
21 control development at the present time?

22 MR. BRAMMER: Oh, yes, yes. We have - - We are
23 - - We approved, uh, Tuesday night we approved
24 twenty-six permits for Switzerland County. Yes,
25 we are fully operating now. We were reorganized



1 the first of this year, new board members elected
2 and so we are a viable organization.

3 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: The reason I ask is, I come
4 from Hamilton County, which is just north of
5 Indianapolis. They did not have county wide
6 zoning and something happened up there that
7 surprised everybody and now they have county wide
8 zoning, but prior to that time, they did not and
9 basically had no control over what was going on.

10 MR. BRAMMER: Right. No, we have full - -
11 Well, and I think it's a plus that we have one
12 board controlling the whole county and the town,
13 which gives us a plus for this organization,
14 because we control the whole county and we have
15 real good working relations with both
16 incorporated towns.

17 QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Are the - - I
18 guess you're going to call them directors or - -
19 of your commission or board, are they elected or
20 appointed?

21 MR. BRAMMER: They are appointed.

22 QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Is there anybody on
23 your historic society from Vevay upon the board?

24 MR. BRAMMER: I don't believe so.

25 MR. SUNDWICK: Okay, thank you.



1 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

2 KIRK WORKS: Kirk Works, 1007 West Main Street,
3 Vevay. Good morning.

4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Good morning.

5 KIRK WORKS: After graduating from the University
6 of Evansville and working in Evansville for three years, I
7 decided to return home to Switzerland County. I looked for
8 a job in Switzerland County, but there were none. I was
9 fortunate enough to find a job just across the river in
10 Kentucky. Thanks to the Markland Dam Bridge, which
11 provides easy access to Kentucky, I'm able to live in Vevay
12 and work in Kentucky.

13 Since 1991, I have worked for two steel plants
14 just across the river. I have witnessed firsthand the many
15 consultants and contract workers needing a place to stay
16 anywhere from one week to one year. Many of those people
17 stay here at the Ogle Haus. It has been commented to me
18 how nice and accomodating this hotel is and what a
19 wonderful place Vevay, Switzerland County, is. They often
20 ask me about the status of riverboat gaming in Switzerland
21 County. I continue to tell them it is coming soon. I ask
22 why the interest in riverboat gaming. Their response would
23 be they were looking forward to a local place where they
24 can go with their colleagues for some fun and
25 entertainment.



1 I'm aware of many young people who would like to
2 return to Switzerland County after graduating from college,
3 but are unable to do so because of the lack of job
4 opportunities. This gaming development will open up many
5 job opportunities in Switzerland County. Tourism,
6 advertising, marketing, accounting, information systems,
7 management will now be available right here in Switzerland
8 County. This would allow college educated people to live
9 and work in their home county, thereby increasing the
10 number of members in the community who would be actively
11 involved in the many community activities in Switzerland
12 County.

13 One of those community activities is the annual
14 Swiss Wine Festival, which I am chairman of this year. I
15 can remember when I was a kid and was fascinated by the
16 many carnival rides and large crowds of people that
17 attended the festival each year. Today the festival is
18 more community oriented and is now sponsored by the Vevay -
19 Switzerland County Lions Club. The festival committee is
20 made up entirely of community volunteers. We are very well
21 organized and have been planning since October for this
22 year's festival. For the first time, we have applied for
23 and received four different grants totalling over eight
24 thousand five hundred dollars. We are spending over ten
25 thousand dollars promoting both the festival and



1 Switzerland County through brochures, posters, radio and
2 newspaper advertisements to the surrounding area, including
3 Cincinnati, Louisville and Indianapolis. As you can see,
4 this community has put their support behind this festival,
5 as well as many other community events throughout the year.
6 This community is made up of many hardworking volunteer
7 minded individuals, as evidenced by the homebaked goods
8 brought here today.

9 Commissioners, I urge you to grant Switzerland
10 County a riverboat gaming license because the people
11 currently living here and the many college educated people
12 who would like to return to Switzerland County are ready,
13 willing and able to make this project a success, not only
14 for Switzerland County, but for the State of Indiana.
15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

17 THOMAS CONROY: In your booklets you will find
18 some maps and things in the back that might be helpful with
19 you when you tour the proposed site tomorrow and we thank
20 you for your time and sincerely look forward to seeing you
21 fellows at the grand opening if we are awarded a license.
22 This concludes SCORE's presentation.

23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, well, thank you very
24 much. We may move our break up a little bit, but
25 before we do, I understand that a state



1 representative is here. Would you - -
2 Representative Cleo Duncan, would you like to say
3 a few words? We certainly welcome you here and
4 it's a privilege to have you with us.

5 REPRESENTATIVE CLEO DUNCAN: Thank you. I am
6 very pleased to be here today. I didn't know that I would
7 be able to be here. I know that the original intent of the
8 legislation was to provide economic development along the
9 Ohio River for the less wealthy of our counties and also I
10 - - a couple things. With the bridge at Markland Dam,
11 with Gallatin Steel coming in, with the State of Kentucky
12 committed to improving the road to the bridge, I would urge
13 your support of awarding a license, a riverboat license, to
14 Switzerland County and thank you all for coming and being
15 here and thank you for having me.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, well, thank you for
17 coming. I think we will take our break now.
18 It's - - We'll take a fifteen minute break.
19 That would put us back here at ten minutes of the
20 hour, so . . .

21 (A break was had)

22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We, of course, will end the
23 break. It's getting toward ten o'clock. We'll
24 go to Sherry Houze.

25 SHERRY HOuze: I'm Sherry Houze. My nickname is



1 Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz. That's an inside joke. I'm
2 from Highway 56, Vevay, Indiana, and not Kansas. But I
3 feel like I've been granted an audience with the Grand
4 Wizards of Riverboat Gambling. I have brought - - I would
5 have brought Toto with me today, but the Ogle Haus doesn't
6 allow pets. I have travelled the Yellow Brick Road today
7 as a representative of the Ogle Haus, being the banquet
8 coordinator here, to tell the Grand Wizards why Switzerland
9 County should have a riverboat casino.

10 Each comment given here today will be very valid
11 for those making their presentations to the Wizards, based
12 on what they believe. We at the Ogle Haus Inn understand
13 that the gaming commission will, in part, make it's final
14 decision based on some of the reasons presented here.

15 I would like to present to you some of the
16 reasons why we would like to see the riverboat based in our
17 county and why we believe it would be a positive venture
18 for Switzerland County. Switzerland County, and especially
19 Vevay, has long been a tourist attraction. People come
20 from all over to enjoy the scenic view of this small, well-
21 kept historical rivertown. Vevay was not only held - -
22 held onto it's historical setting and breathtaking
23 landscape, but has incorporated much of the modern
24 technologies, which is the essence of survival in today's
25 society. Switzerland County residents have shown by their



1 vote that they are ready and willing now to take on another
2 challenge, a riverboat casino.

3 It wasn't until just a few short years ago that
4 Switzerland County started to realize what it was going to
5 take to keep Vevay and the surrounding communities on the
6 map, and that's tourism. Through the efforts of the
7 county's Chamber of Commerce, the Ogle Haus Inn, Vevay
8 Visit Volunteer Organization and other local and city
9 groups, Switzerland County's tourism has continued to
10 develop to the point that it has gained recognition from
11 the state tourism commission. This has not been an easy
12 task to achieve, but certainly well worth the effort.

13 The Ogle Haus feels that the riverboat casino
14 would not only benefit our community and the surrounding
15 communities by providing the needed training, education and
16 monetary benefits it could offer, but we also feel that by
17 placing the riverboat here in Switzerland County, the
18 riverboat casino itself would benefit.

19 As mentioned before, Vevay has been attracting
20 people from all over the country for many years as a
21 beautiful, historic rivertown with much to offer tourists.
22 With Interstate 71 and 75 accessibility by the Markland Dam
23 Bridge, people come from all over to this picturesque
24 community nestled in the foothills of Southeastern Indiana
25 and the rolling riverbank of the Ohio. Another indication



1 that attracting tourists to a riverboat casino in
2 Switzerland County would not be a problem is the fact that
3 many times it is difficult to make reservations here at the
4 Ogle Haus Inn and surrounding bed and breakfasts, because
5 we are booked up a year in advance.

6 Drawing from personal experiences with groups, a
7 new recreation complex and hotel accomodations with a civic
8 center would not have any problems at all with booking.
9 Businesses and industries from all over the tri-state area,
10 Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky, come to the Ogle Haus for
11 conventions, training seminars, company parties, bookings
12 for private weddings and receptions, family and class
13 reunions, are also in constant demand. And let us not
14 forget those that come just for the sheer enjoyment of
15 Switzerland County's friendly places and smiling faces.

16 In recent years, the Wine Festival, which at it's
17 peak in the mid-seventies, attracted somewhere in the
18 neighborhood of one hundred thousand visitors in a three
19 day span. It has begun to steadily grow again. The
20 original festival was discontinued due to its overwhelming
21 size and growing popularity. The community was not
22 prepared to deal with such crowds and problems that
23 accompanied such an event. That was twenty years ago. As
24 the old saying goes, live and learn. We've lived and
25 learned that such a venture as a riverboat casino requires



1 extensive planning, organizing and networking with
2 professionals from within, as well as outside of our
3 community.

4 The people of Switzerland County are ready and
5 willing to take on this challenge. It has taken a great
6 deal of sacrifice and commitment by many people to get
7 Switzerland County where it is today. These people have no
8 intentions on stopping now with or without a riverboat
9 casino. These people, as well as new ones, who now see the
10 importance of being involved in the direction of their
11 economic future, will continue to plan, organize and strive
12 to obtain a common goal, that goal being growth, not just
13 in the number of people coming as tourists, but as
14 individuals themselves. We will continue to keep building
15 on what we have already begun to achieve, that being making
16 Vevay and Switzerland County not just a place to stop when
17 going from one place to another. No, we are now becoming
18 that point. We are a destination. Switzerland County's
19 future does not hinge on whether or not it obtains a
20 riverboat casino. We will continue to emerge as a place
21 where people want to be. We are an attraction all by
22 ourselves. A riverboat casino will be another jewel - -

23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse me, ma'am. Your time
24 is up. I'm really sorry.

25 MS. HOUZE: Thanks.



1 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We've enjoyed it. Thank you.

2 EVELINA BROWN: I'm Evelina Brown. I reside at
3 33 Van Brandon Road in Pleasant Township - and it is
4 Pleasant to live there - on a hundred and twenty-five
5 acre farm in Switzerland County, Indiana. I'm the County
6 Council Attorney and I've been fortunate to be there when
7 this exciting thing has been happening and, uh, I wanted to
8 let you know that. Also let you know that I served as a
9 chairperson for a steering committee on the Always a River
10 project that you saw a clip of, I think, at the beginning
11 of this meeting.

12 I wanted to tell you a little bit more about that
13 event. That was a grand, grand happening, and hopefully
14 some of you got to visit the barge. That was a project
15 that was sponsored by the Humanities of six differ - -
16 Humanities Council of six different states, Illinois,
17 Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.
18 What it consisted of was a river barge museum that floated
19 down the river from Pittsburg to Cairo. It had twenty-one
20 different docking sites, one of them being Vevay, Indiana.
21 Now, what was amazing and what I think is important to tell
22 you very briefly here - we couldn't believe it - we
23 had in this little town more visitors than any other site,
24 including all of the large cities. We had eight thousand
25 people that paid to get onto the barge and we estimated we



1 had like two thousand others that we gave complimentary
2 passes to that didn't pay. So to compare, the other
3 Indiana site of Mt. Vernon had one thousand visitors. So
4 you can see the success. And we were overwhelmed by it
5 and I think lots of people were very surprised. Now, why
6 was that so successful here? I think there are many, many
7 things that you could attribute it to. I'm not going to
8 read this - - I wrote this yesterday in St. Vincent
9 Hospital. My husband's recovering from another angioplast.
10 He's had fifteen. Did you know you could have fifteen
11 places ballooned and still function? They put a stint in
12 yesterday. And I'm not telling you that to get sympathy.
13 I'm telling you that so you can see how important it was to
14 me to get here and speak to you this morning and how
15 important this project is - - I mean, it is to us and it
16 is to our sister county of Ohio. And if we don't get it,
17 give it to them, please. You know, both of us - - we both
18 need it. We want it here. We think you should choose
19 Switzerland County and that's why I want to tell you the
20 rest of this speech. But anyway, the reason why I think
21 that it was a success here in Switzerland County is
22 location. The Markland Bridge. I mean, we were centrally
23 located. We cooperated with three counties on this side of
24 the river and three on the other side. We had Tremble,
25 Carroll and Gallatin Counties, and Ohio, Switzerland and



1 Jefferson Counties that worked on that project, all the
2 historical societies, the schools, the churches, people of
3 all the different counties came in and we had all kind of
4 wonderful events, like a river belle contest, you had to be
5 fifty-five years young to be in it, you had to wear an
6 authentic costume, you had to tell your fondest memory of
7 the river and that sort of thing. We had cook-offs. We
8 had music, drama, music on the streets. It was just a
9 grand happening. So I think it was organization.

10 We have lots of people - - and you've seen some
11 of them here. They're dedicated. They've got experience,
12 they've drawn thousands of people to our festivals, to the
13 Wine Festival and to this one. They know how to get that
14 done. They will work with Pinnacle. They will enhance it.
15 There will be events that will compliment it. It will be
16 very successful. We'll make alot of money for Indiana and
17 for our communities, I believe. The other reasons, I
18 think, marketing. We didn't have very many dollars back
19 then in 1991, but we used those dollars wisely. Think what
20 we could do if we had money enough to market. And it was
21 like an established tourism group, Vevay volunteer, Anita
22 Danner - - you saw how talented she is, and a group that
23 worked with her and they - - they helped us to get that.
24 There was involvement, but mainly location. I think we
25 have the place where the riverboat license should be



1 awarded. Thank you very much.

2 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

3 PRESTINE CHAPMAN: My name is Prestine Chapman
4 and I'm the Executive Director at the Switzerland County
5 Welcome Center, so I want to welcome all of you to
6 Switzerland County. I live at 515 Ferry Street, just four
7 blocks from my office.

8 The welcome center is a full service convention
9 and visitor's bureau, serving Switzerland County and the
10 Southeastern Indiana region. Approximately ninety percent
11 of the Switzerland County activities involve marketing in
12 some way. We currently rent space in the historic Hoosier
13 Theater and operate on a strict budget derived from the
14 Indiana Uniform Law Enacted Innkeeper's Tax. The
15 Innkeeper's Tax moves directly from the collection point to
16 the county auditor's office, then a check is issued to the
17 Switzerland County Recreation, Convention and Tourism
18 Commission, which oversees all the funds. The Welcome
19 Center's cost (indiscernible) approximately ninety-five
20 percent of the innkeeper's tax fund. As I said before, the
21 welcome center deals mainly with marketing.
22 (indiscernible) in June, 1992, coming on board to develop
23 a new organization. Since then, the welcome center has
24 developed a new full color brochure assisted with the
25 expanded visitor's guide and this year aided in the



1 development of a full color brochure for the Swiss Wine
2 Festival. We have supplied the information for many
3 newspaper and magazine articles on Switzerland County,
4 including this year's fulfillment piece for the Indiana
5 Department of Tourism's Regional Guide to South Central
6 Indiana.

7 The Welcome Center works with several other
8 organizations each year to fund and staff booths at
9 regional travel shows. Regional cooperation is very
10 important to us, so we have supported as many regional
11 groups as possible. I am currently on the board of
12 Historic Southern Indiana, the President of the Tourism
13 Council of Historic Hoosier Hills, which governs tourism in
14 an eight county southeastern Indiana area, a member of the
15 Association of Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and a
16 member of the Ohio River Scenic Route Committee.

17 We like to share our wealth when we can with
18 other groups in our area. Some of the groups that have
19 benefitted from the welcome center's funding include the
20 Hoosier Theater, the Switzerland County Historical Museum,
21 local merchants and the Chamber of Commerce, to name a few.

22 Since the opening of the welcome center in 1992,
23 the occupancy rate here at the Ogle Haus has risen from
24 sixty-nine percent to eighty percent, which is a good
25 indication in the rise in the number of visitors to



1 Switzerland County.

2 The Markland Dam Bridge allows access to
3 Switzerland County from Louisville, Lexington, Georgetown,
4 Frankfort and the Greater Cincinnati area. Bloomington,
5 Indianapolis and Columbus have access through I-65 and the
6 Ohio River Scenic Route. This access is important now, but
7 will be even more so when a riverboat locates in Florence.
8 A new interchange ramp is currently planned by the State of
9 Kentucky off I-71, just above Gallatin Steel, which is
10 located just below the Markland Bridge.

11 Location of a riverboat in Florence would bring
12 up to six hundred thousand dollars per year in new funds to
13 the tourism commission. These funds will be used to
14 relocate and to purchase new equipment for our main office.
15 A new satellite office will be permanently located at the
16 riverboat site and will be staffed by a new employee, a
17 group tour manager. A new secretary will also be hired to
18 assist the executive director in daily operations.

19 A long range plan is currently in a developmental
20 stage. This plan is prepared in anticipation of riverboat
21 gaming funds, but it is also a plan that will address the
22 issue of riverboat gaming longevity.

23 Pinnacle Gaming will bring nine hundred and
24 ninety-five new jobs to Switzerland County, which is very
25 important to our area. The people who live here do not



1 always qualify for high paying jobs and the training
2 provided by the riverboat company will not only upgrade
3 employment skills, but will also build pride in our
4 citizens. Riverboat gaming means tourism, jobs and growth
5 for Switzerland County. Thank you.

6 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: I have one
7 question. I don't know if you're the person to
8 answer it. You've just stated that there is to
9 be a interchange off 71 someplace?

10 MS. CHAPMAN: Yes.

11 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: And do you know
12 what stage that project is in? I know it's a
13 Kentucky project, but does anybody know exactly
14 what's happening?

15 MS. CHAPMAN: I did call about that yesterday and
16 it will be - - it is anticipated to be in place
17 or started, anyway, sometime within the next five
18 years and that's as far as I can find out from
19 Carrollton.

20 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Was this a
21 commitment that Kentucky made to the steel people
22 before they put their plant in, is that my
23 understanding, or do you know anything about
24 that?

25 ANITA DANNER: The land has been purchased.



1 MS. CHAPMAN: Yeah.

2 ANITA DANNER: And that is a committment that
3 Kentucky made for those businesses located along
4 the Ohio River to give them a faster access to
5 the river road. Right now you have to get off at
6 Carrollton or at Warsaw or at Glencoe and travel
7 a country road, so this is a direct access.

8 MS. CHAPMAN: When I called Carrollton yesterday,
9 the Economic Development Director there said that
10 it is a necessary thing to bring that access ramp
11 off I-71 to Gallatin Steel, because so many new
12 companies have located up and down that area that
13 it is a necessary item.

14 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: But you don't know
15 whether that is a firm commitment by Kentucky to
16 - -

17 MS. CHAPMAN: It has been - - It has been
18 promised to the people who own businesses along
19 that river, yeah.

20 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Is that everyone's
21 understanding of the status of where we are on
22 that?

23 MIKE JONES: Chairman Kineman: I understand from
24 talking to officials in Kentucky with the
25 Department of Transportation that it has been



1 funded and it is part of an incentive package
2 that was offered to those new companies.

3 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Anyone else have any
4 questions?

5 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Is there a time line on
6 that, that you know of?

7 MIKE JONES: I think she was right - -

8 MS. CHAPMAN: Within five years.

9 MIKE JONES: - - when she said within five years
10 completion.

11 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: And opening up of
12 the interchange, then they have to build the
13 access road, too, is that my - - or is the
14 access road in place?

15 ANITA DANNER: You're only talking two miles.

16 MIKE JONES: Yeah, it's - - Chairman Kineman,
17 it is a short distance. You say two miles?

18 ANITA DANNER: Yeah, 'cause you go straight.

19 MIKE JONES: But my understand from the Kentucky
20 Department of Transportation was that five years
21 was the time for it to be completely open.

22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Any other questions? Okay,
23 thank you. We're now moving into the portion of
24 our schedule which was to be after the break that
25 we took early. Esther Crepin?



1 ESTHER CREPIN: That's Esther Crepin. I know
2 it's hard to figure that name out. I want to thank you for
3 being able to address the Commission today and I'd like to
4 share some of my personal views, along with some statistics
5 I've come up with.

6 Thirty to forty years ago many of us in this room
7 can remember when gambling was a vice on equal plain with
8 prostitution. How quickly we forget. Today gambling
9 promotion has become a key to state budget balancing. How
10 did this happen? We legalized to ease our conscience. If
11 upbeat predictions are abundant, it's apparent reliable
12 information is in short supply. A few years ago, no
13 gambling was legal in Indiana, but suddenly almost anything
14 goes. It is far from clear that local officials are ready
15 to lead their communities, including our young people, into
16 the world of slot machines and roulette wheels.

17 Is anyone doing any market research? Here are
18 some facts. Riverboats seem to have had, at best, a
19 negligible effect on the employment base in rivertowns.
20 The unemployment rates in Alton, Joliet, Peoria and Rock
21 Island, Illinois, were higher in March of 1993 than in
22 March of 1991. Alton, for instance, had an 8.5 percent
23 unemployment rate in March of 1991, and a year later, about
24 six months after the Alton Belle opened, the city's jobless
25 rate had climbed to 9.7 percent. In March of 1993, it had



1 risen to eleven percent.

2 Central City, Colorado, it opened it's doors to
3 gambling in 1991. Central City's costs to support the
4 casino industry for more police, building inspectors, city
5 planners and other officials, have soared. Central City's
6 debt has expanded from five hundred thousand in 1988 to
7 twenty million today. Central City's city manager, Jack
8 Title, says, and I quote: "I'd tell anyone who was
9 thinking of opening their community to casino gambling to
10 have his head examined. First comes the boon, then comes
11 the bust."

12 Two major factors for considering riverboat
13 gambling for any community has been the promises of jobs
14 and money. Casinos don't deliver what they promise, in
15 particular, the myth that depressed areas can recapture
16 economic vitality.

17 In New Jersey, with the lottery and twelve
18 casinos, the state earns only six percent of it's revenues
19 through gambling. Unemployment has not changed, taxes have
20 increased. Street crime, rape, larsony, assault and auto
21 theft have gone up three hundred percent.

22 Clinton, Iowa, with a population of thirty
23 thousand dollars. City records show no increase or
24 decrease in the city's tax revenue since the boat arrived
25 in 1991. Tax money has flowed into the community, three



1 hundred and seventeen thousand dollars since the boat
2 opened, yet that money did not cover the cost of three
3 hundred and fifty thousand dollars it took to put in water
4 and sewer lines to the boat's dockside.

5 Deadwood, South Dakota, on Main Street, a
6 department store, a woman's clothing store, a shoe store,
7 a drug store, and two hardware stores, have been shut down.
8 In their stead there are novelty and gift shops and
9 casinos. "You can't buy a pair of socks in downtown
10 Deadwood", states a local resident. Even the Mayor
11 Overlander states, "The greed factor is definitely here."

12 Cripple Creek, Colorado, a historic town, tourism
13 is down thirty-five percent. Most local stores sold to
14 casinos, others were boarded up and abandoned. Four
15 casinos have closed due to overcrowding.

16 Fort Madison, Iowa, two riverboat gambling owners
17 pulled out leaving the community with six hundred local
18 unemployed and a 2.6 million debt to riverfront
19 development.

20 Finally, casino owners have used economic
21 leverage against state legislatures. Right now, in
22 Atlantic City, for example, the new law - - the first law
23 gave them one casino; now they have eleven major casinos
24 and twenty-four hour operation. It is extremely important
25 to note that virtually every avenue where casinos operate



1 constant efforts have succeeded in expanding casino
2 operations beyond the original purpose. Casino operations
3 in Iowa and Illinois this very day both are now threatening
4 to abandon these states unless the legislatures rescind
5 restrictions.

6 The carrot dangled in front of our nose would
7 eventually become a noose around our neck. Friends, this
8 is a price too high to pay.

9 Let me share something personally. Proverbs 22:1
10 says: A good name is rather to be chosen than great
11 riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold.

12 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse me, ma'am.

13 MS. CREPIN: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Yeah, thank you very much.

15 Toni Allen?

16 TONI ALLEN: Hi. My name is Toni Allen and I
17 live at 25 Fishing Worm Ridge in Switzerland County, Vevay.

18 Living outside of Atlantic City, New Jersey, for
19 fifteen years, I got to watch the steady deterioration of
20 Atlantic City and it's surrounding areas after the casinos
21 started in 1978. Prime farm land sprouted condos, malls
22 and development. Local family businesses closed down and
23 were replaced by chain stores and families lost their homes
24 and moved away. Local people became victims to increased
25 traffic accidents, mostly caused by drunk driving. They



1 were victims of robberies, rapes, vandalisms and batteries.
2 Taxes rose, crime rates rose, pollution in lakes, the
3 rivers and the ocean increased and welfare costs
4 skyrocketed. The area became overpopulated, overtaxed and
5 overregulated. From 1976 to 1992, Atlantic City's police
6 budget tripled to twenty-four million dollars while it's
7 local population decreased by twenty percent. During the
8 first three years of casino gambling Atlantic City, in per
9 capita crime, went from fiftieth to the first among U.S.
10 cities. Sixty-one percent of those crimes were related to
11 casinos and three out of six mayors were arrested and
12 jailed for corruption. Atlantic City lost one-half of it's
13 population in a decade and one hundred out of two hundred
14 and fifty restaurants closed down in 1978 alone. People
15 came out to gamble, not to shop, and the industry sucked
16 money out of local theaters, clothing shops, car
17 dealerships and restaurants. Private rescue missions went
18 from helping fifteen people a day to helping five hundred
19 people a day. And despite the fact that New Jersey has
20 horse racing, lottery and twelve casinos, the state earns
21 only six percent of revenue through the gambling. Casinos
22 in Atlantic City did not alleviate the problems there; it
23 created more. The slums are still there, two blocks from
24 the casinos. There is more crime, more problems with
25 alcohol and drugs, more prostitution and related diseases.



1 The point is, the people did not - - of the community did
2 not benefit from it.

3 It's true that Switzerland County does not have
4 much wealth in dollars, but it is a great asset to the
5 state of Indiana for it's beauty, peacefulness and history.
6 There are not many places left where we can raise our
7 children that are good and wholesome. People come here to
8 retire and others come in from the cities to escape the
9 ratrace lifestyle of overpopulated areas. It's a unique
10 little oasis to the hustle bustle of other communities.

11 Since my family moved here three years ago, five
12 other new families have moved into our neighborhood alone.
13 Switzerland County has been experiencing a slow, but steady
14 and healthy growth. Being mostly a farming community,
15 there's no infrastructure to support at this time a sudden
16 and great influx of people and I feel a floating casino
17 would cause a quick boom that would be followed by a bust,
18 stagnating real estate and other related businesses. I
19 feel that the people of this county who have high hopes and
20 expectations of a riverboat casino will be greatly
21 disappointed, that the recent buyout of Paradise is a
22 perfect example of how quickly things change and how little
23 control the people of Switzerland County will have over a
24 big business, like riverboat gambling.

25 For these reasons, I ask the Commission this



1 question in making their decision for the location of a
2 gaming license: Why take a relatively safe, peaceful,
3 clean environment and turn it into another problem
4 community? If the state wants to help Switzerland County,
5 then help us preserve it's good qualities, not destroy
6 them. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Mr. Goble?

8 ED GOBLE: Good morning and thank you for coming,
9 to the Commission. I appreciate you coming to Switzerland
10 County. Let me clarify. I'm former state representative
11 Ed Goble. I had Switzerland County in my district
12 originally back in 1970 when I was first elected and one of
13 the issues at that time was, we need a bridge across the
14 river at Markland Dam and we were eventually successful
15 with that and my Republican colleague friends chose to
16 redistrict me out of Switzerland County and I ended up up
17 at Bartholomew County, instead of Switzerland County. So
18 I have changed alot as district wide, but eventually I came
19 back when I had the opportunity. I redistricted myself
20 back to Switzerland County. And I can recall the debate in
21 the House regarding riverboat gaming. The legislators from
22 Gary were very adamant about the need for that opportunity.
23 Thousands of people were leaving Gary. The industries up
24 there were not doing well. And they wanted that
25 opportunity and they fought very hard and I was the House



1 Majority Whip for four years and helped them get the votes
2 necessary to pass riverboat gaming, the opportunity being
3 there for the counties along the river to vote it either up
4 or down, not a moral issue, but whether or not they wanted
5 riverboat gaming.

6 I'd like to read to you just briefly out of the
7 Bill itself, section seven: In granting a license under
8 this chapter, the Commission may give favorable
9 consideration to the following: one, economically
10 depressed areas of Indiana - - I think Switzerland
11 County, if you would check, would certainly qualify - -
12 and then two, applicants presenting plans that provide for
13 significant economic development over a large geographic
14 area. They have done that. Switzerland County Council has
15 passed a resolution sharing their revenue with seven
16 counties, and I'm told that several of those counties
17 already have accepted that and voted in favor of that.

18 I-71 is just across the river and access to
19 Switzerland County, because the bridge is there, it goes
20 both ways and we think that the opportunity for people to
21 come to the boat would certainly be there.

22 The jobs is what I'm really concerned about here,
23 because, you know, we hear talk of divorces in Switzerland
24 County. The divorce rate is extremely high. You only need
25 to go to the local school and find that out. I believe



1 that if jobs are available, families tend to stay together.
2 It's devastating to be fired or laid off and not have a job
3 and be able to provide for your family. So I think it's
4 extremely important that they have that opportunity here in
5 Switzerland County. I'm not here to debate the moral
6 issue, but I certainly think that the jobs are certainly
7 important and a boat will allow access to those jobs and
8 economic development, which is certainly needed.

9 And let me just point out to the Commission one
10 other thing and I think which is important. Down on the
11 Governor's desk today is Senate Bill 572 and House Bill
12 1722. Both of those passed overwhelmingly, calling for one
13 boat per county. I really believe the intent of this
14 legislation was to allow that economic development in those
15 depressed areas; that certainly proved that.

16 The question should not be, where can the State
17 put a boat to make the most money or the greatest amount of
18 money for the state. The question should be, where can the
19 boat be located which gives the greatest impact on local
20 areas for economic development and creation of jobs. I
21 appreciate your support for Switzerland County.

22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Goble.

23 QUESTION BY ANN BOCHNOWSKI: Can I ask a
24 question?

25 MR. GOBLE: Go ahead, sure.



1 QUESTION BY ANN BOCHNOWSKI: You didn't address
2 this, but we talked about the access over the
3 Markland Dam Bridge. Something that came up
4 before and maybe you can answer it or somebody
5 else . . . Somebody mentioned that a boat
6 would actually be able to cruise in Indiana
7 waters easily in that location - -

8 MR. GOBLE: I have a river chart that was
9 provided for me by a realtor, of all places, from
10 Kentucky and I went to his office to look at
11 that, because that was a question, and it's my
12 understanding that there's six hundred and sixty
13 foot of right-of-way on the Indiana side above
14 the dam and someone locally here can answer that
15 better, but he showed me the charts and then,
16 also, up river for four or five miles, so there
17 is cruising ability on the Indiana side, in my
18 understanding, if the charts that he showed me
19 are accurate - - and when I looked at them, he
20 showed me the locations and I have no reason to
21 doubt those charts. Those were U.S. Coast Guard
22 charts.

23 MS. BOCHNOWSKI: Okay. That was something that's
24 come up before and I think it's a real concern.

25 MR. GOBLE: Yes.



1 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Mr. Goble, I guess you
2 probably know that this Commission has employed
3 IUPUI to evaluate the economic development that
4 each one of the applicants in any location have -
5 - would have if they were granted a license, so
6 this Commission has been well aware of the
7 legislative intent in that regard and we look at
8 those reports very carefully and the multiples
9 that they provide, as far as employment and so
10 forth, so we are aware of that aspect. And the
11 income to the state by way of tax revenue is way
12 down on our list. We want to create jobs.

13 ED GOBLE: Well, I understand, Mr. Chairman. I
14 understand that, uh, at one of the committee
15 meetings that I was at the people who were
16 proposing the two boats was talking in terms of
17 making a great deal more money for the state, so
18 I just simply wanted to point out that that is
19 not, as you understand, the important criteria
20 here.

21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Well, thank you.

22 ED GOBLE: Thank you.

23 HERBERT ROHMANN: My name is Herbert Rohmann. I
24 live at 65 Varble Lane here in Vevay. And Mr. Chairman and
25 ladies and gentlemen of the Indiana Gaming Commission, I



1 appreciate the opportunity to present you with data and
2 conclusions that I have gathered regarding gambling and
3 poverty as a trained researcher. My experience as a
4 researcher is a result of earning four university degrees,
5 including a Doctor of Philosophy and teaching research
6 skills at a university graduate school. In any research
7 that has validity, integrity and credibility, at least two
8 components must be part of the process. They are a
9 collection of unbiased data and an unbiased conclusion or
10 conclusions drawn from that data. That enables the reader
11 or the listeners, in this case, of the research to take a
12 legitimate and appropriate course of action.

13 From my research on the issue of gambling and
14 poverty, I have drawn three pervasive conclusions that I
15 should like to share with you so that you can make the
16 correct decisions for Switzerland County. They are:
17 number one, it presents a false hope; secondly, it
18 promotes a financial hazard; and thirdly, it produces a
19 fiendish habit.

20 First of all, it presents a false hope. Their
21 biggest promotional for gambling is, 'We will bring
22 economic development to this community'. That is true.
23 However, it is true only for a select few. The notion of
24 economic development is a canard and grossly misleading.
25 The research shows, generally, over a period that the



1 opposite is true.

2 Switzerland County's financial condition is one
3 of the poorest in Indiana. It's ninetieth out of ninety-
4 two. Our condition of poverty in Switzerland County is one
5 - - I called the Welfare Department and discovered that
6 there are alot of statistics there, but I can't quote them
7 all to you, but it would substantiate the fact that we are
8 a very poor county. A large group of the population has
9 temporary jobs and those who work have poor paying jobs.
10 The gaming people prey on poor people and present them with
11 false hope.

12 Secondly, it promotes a financial hazard. I have
13 a research brief done by Focus on the Family here and there
14 are two statements that I'd like to quote to you from the
15 research. I quote, "Two Duke University researchers
16 concluded that the poorer the household, the greater the
17 percentage of income devoted to gambling." Secondly,
18 "Nearly two decades ago, the government's task force on
19 gambling came to much the same conclusion regarding
20 gambling in general. The task force found that those in
21 the lowest income bracket lost more than three times as
22 much money to gambling as a percentage of income as those
23 at the wealthiest end of the spectrum." I have a
24 synopsis here of twelve conditions that accrued in Nachez,
25 Mississippi, that is a county that has legalized gambling.



1 I'd like to quote the eleventh one to you, supporting the
2 fact that gambling is a financial hazard: "Social services
3 needs are up. The clientel on the boat is primarily low to
4 middle income and the greater part of the business comes
5 from a fifty mile radius. Nachez is the only town in Adams
6 County and the surrounding counties are rural and poor.
7 Neighboring Jefferson and Wilkison Counties are among the
8 poorest counties in the nation.

9 Thirdly, it produces a fiendish habit. Again,
10 I'd like to quote a research brief here and this is what it
11 says, I quote: "They're legalizing gambling all over the
12 country" he said. Along with that is coming explosive - -
13 exploding of compulsive gamblers that are being destroyed
14 all over the country. According to gamblers anonymous,
15 there are an estimated six to ten million compulsive
16 gamblers in the country, up from three million in 1986.
17 Now, what happens as a result of that? Listen to this:
18 Arnie Wensler wagered and lost more than three hundred
19 thousand - - he's not relatively poor, I would say - -
20 but he lost three hundred thousand by the age of thirty, a
21 compulsive gambler, his marriage deteriorated to nothing
22 while suicidal thoughts swirled in his mind, "I was looking
23 around to kill myself."

24 Just a few concluding comments here. I received
25 a theme from one of the local high school students and, uh,



1 he's in the tenth grade, age sixteen. This is what he
2 wrote, his perception of gambling in Switzerland County:
3 "I don't think that the riverboat is a good idea, because
4 the poor people will be there and the welfare is too high
5 in this county and now the people will rob and get more
6 money to steal and lose."

7 Folks, I have a button here and, uh, you're
8 probably thinking, "Well, he's an enigma." But look here.
9 See the smoke up there? It says Jobs and Tourism. That's
10 where it's going to go, up in smoke. And here, Float the
11 Boat Where it is Most Needed - - it is not needed in
12 Switzerland County.

13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you very much. Those of
14 you who are unable to get into the room - - and
15 I'm sorry, but this is the best we could do - -
16 could you hold your conversations away from the
17 doorways, because it is interfering with our
18 ability to hear the speakers, so I would
19 appreciate it if you would do that for us. John
20 Scudder?

21 JOHN SCUDDER: My name is John Scudder. I live
22 at 2033 Highway 56, Vevay. I pastor two small churches in
23 Switzerland County, but I'm also a retired Indiana State
24 Police officer and it's from those experiences that I wish
25 to address this group this morning.



1 I have a paper that I would like to give to the
2 committee when I'm through. It's about a meeting, county
3 people going to Indianapolis to urge improvement of State
4 Road 129. It's the end of many long lists of people who
5 have gone to Indianapolis to try to get our roads improved.
6 I hope they have more luck than the ones before them. I
7 noticed, also, that there was two people on the program
8 this morning who were in that committee and I did not hear
9 their presentations, but I agree with them one hundred
10 percent. State Road 129 is sub-standard, it's dangerous
11 and I believe that there must be much work done on it
12 before we invite people to come this direction for any
13 reason.

14 Monday morning I started from my home in East
15 Enterprise to Vevay. At the top of the hill I was stopped
16 by a sheriff's car and held in a line of traffic for
17 approximately twenty-five minutes. At the end of that time
18 there was a mobile home that came up the hill. That hill
19 is so narrow and so crooked that they have to block traffic
20 before you can come down.

21 As I was thinking about this presentation,
22 there's other things on that hill that came to my mind.
23 Just after you come through the horseshoe bend, there's a
24 rough spot where the road's sliding into the creek. It has
25 been doing that ever since I patrolled more than thirty



1 years ago. At that one spot there was a fatal accident
2 years ago. The grand jury refused to indict. They said
3 the road was so rough that they thought that was
4 contributing influence. A short distance down, if you
5 happen to travel that way, you'll see the road is still
6 sliding into the - - over the hillside. I investigated an
7 accident there where three young men lost control, went off
8 the road and hit a tree, killed them all. I used to know
9 exactly where that was, but the tree died. Even trees
10 don't live long on a hillside where the soil keeps
11 shifting. A little farther down the hill there was a
12 vehicle went over the bank, turned over, the passenger
13 couldn't get out, the car caught on fire, the person
14 burned. It's not a good way to spend an evening, waiting
15 for a car to cool off to get a partially burned body out of
16 it.

17 If you came - - I don't know how you came to
18 this meeting. If you came 129, you understand what they're
19 talking about in this article. If you came from Madison,
20 which is the east/west access road to this area, you came
21 across a place where there are barrels out already and in
22 this article it says that the road is slipping into the
23 river. As you come from the little community of Lamb, you
24 will find about seven miles of road where if you walked off
25 to your right on the river side, you will find several



1 places on the road where this is no berm. If you pull off
2 the edge of the white line, you have thin air.

3 I patrolled this road for nine years as a
4 trooper, from 1957 to December of 1966 when I was promoted
5 to detective. I still drove the road, but I did not
6 patrol. I drove well over four hundred thousand miles on
7 patrol in Ohio, Switzerland and Dearborn County. I believe
8 I know these roads as well as most anyone in this group.
9 I would suggest if you have good vision or you can imagine
10 if you would think of yourself travelling from the
11 community of Lamb toward Vevay some winter evening just
12 after the boat has let out their people, I understand that
13 alcohol is not discouraged on the boat, and as you would
14 meet a stream of traffic, a solid stream, imagine how you
15 would feel knowing on that narrow, twisting road if someone
16 could not stay on their side of the line, you have no place
17 to go.

18 If you came to this area from the east, down
19 State Road 156, you will find the road is sliding into the
20 river. In fact, it has slid farther than State Road 56.
21 About a year ago, it was closed because it had become so
22 dangerous to traffic. I don't know how long it was closed.
23 I did not go down to look. If you've seen one road, you've
24 seen 'em all.

25 Whether the side of gambling that we are on,



1 Indiana is either an accomplice, an accessory or a partner
2 in the gambling exercise. I believe it's incumbent,
3 whichever one that we think Indiana is, to provide the
4 safest environment for the travelling public that it
5 possibly can. That means good planning, good construction,
6 good maintenance and good patrol. This county only has
7 slight control over the patrol. But you can't remember - -
8 or can't imagine yourself travelling up State Road 56
9 facing that line of traffic, because you'll leave here, but
10 I'll face it and so will the people who live here. And
11 some - - When I think of road defects, I can't help but
12 thinking of people, because people is what we're talking
13 about. I know there's lots of money involved, but people
14 are involved, also.

15 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Scudder.

16 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Mr. Scudder, may I ask
17 you a question?

18 MR. SCUDDER: Yes.

19 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Based upon your personal
20 experiences, let's assume a minimum of fifteen
21 hundred cars additional per day, Monday through
22 Friday at noon, and five thousand additional
23 vehicles Friday at noon through Sunday, what's
24 your personal opinion of the three roads you've
25 mentioned being able to handle that type of



1 traffic safely?

2 MR. SCUDDER: It would be impossible for them to
3 handle them safely. I'm on the Sheriff's Merit
4 Board and I know that they are asking for an
5 increase in patrol personnel. If they have
6 anything like that much traffic, all those people
7 will be doing is answering calls. They will not
8 be doing patrol work. I made the schedule at the
9 post for years. I have some expertise in how
10 many people it takes to patrol roads and I don't
11 believe in any way, shape nor form, without major
12 overhaul these roads can handle that traffic with
13 any degree, let alone a reasonable degree of
14 safety.

15 JACK THAR: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Anybody else? Thank you.

17 Carolyn J. Miller? Welcome.

18 CAROLYN J. MILLER: Thank you. I welcome you all
19 to Switzerland County, especially to Vevay, Indiana, and
20 the Ogle Haus. You've heard the statistics and I don't
21 have alot of statistics for you and I'm no professional in
22 the area of statistics. I have a few that I've read, but
23 I want to tell you that I'm a mother and I'm a grandmother
24 and I am a concerned citizen of Switzerland County.

25 The gambling referendum here passed by only one



1 hundred sixty-seven votes and I want to make that into your
2 minds, a hundred sixty-seven votes, and the issue has been
3 a very divisive thing in our county. Being a very small
4 place, everybody knows everyone else's business and
5 everyone else's relative and everything that goes with it,
6 and this issue has caused a division between co-workers and
7 friends and family members being very divided on the issue.
8 And I'm especially concerned over the families in our area.
9 We just heard it said by Mr. Goble that possibly this
10 gambling opportunity may help marriages in the area, but
11 it's the first thing I've ever considered that gambling
12 might help marriages. In fact, the statistics that I've
13 read might prove otherwise.

14 And we do have the opportunity for jobs.
15 Unfortunately for us, they're moving across the river.
16 There are factories opening up over there. There's a great
17 opportunity to go up to the dam, cross over and get jobs,
18 and this is becoming a bedroom community. But we'd like to
19 see some industry appropriate for our community to move in
20 here. We'd like for that revenue to come back to our
21 state.

22 Now, the gamblers that were moving in our area
23 said, "Look at Tunica, Mississippi, because we can do for
24 you what we did for Tunica." So my husband and I travelled
25 down there. The day that we were there a young man had



1 been killed in a car accident that they had not determined
2 whether or not it was caused by the traffic, due to the
3 increased traffic due to gambling. But he had died. They
4 did have his funeral there. But afterwards, we questioned
5 as many people as we could, a cross-section of the
6 community, librarians, teachers, police persons, and we
7 were really disturbed to find out that some of the teachers
8 in the area supplement their income by working at the
9 casinos in the summertime. To us, that seemed
10 inappropriate. And in fact, in our own school system, some
11 of our teachers are either supporting and/or promoting
12 gambling, which also seems inappropriate to me. I guess
13 what I'm trying to say is, I'm concerned over the influence
14 that our role models have on our families, our children,
15 everyone from our own teachers, our 4-H leaders, attitudes
16 about Michael Jordan, and he's a hero among our teens, and
17 his well-publicized gambling affairs, that all bothers me.

18 Now, here's a statistic for you. Ken Hunter, who
19 is the Chief Postal Inspector of the United States Post
20 Office, while discussing embezzlement among postal
21 employees, had this to say: He said, "There's three main
22 C's", he calls it, "that are behind the embezzling these
23 days in the post office, the three top reasons, one is the
24 C of chance, one is the C of chemicals, and one is the C of
25 credit, and the C of chance is the one that's the fastest



1 growing." In other words, gambling is the fastest growing
2 reason behind embezzlement.

3 Now, teens are gambling and why - -

4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse me, Mrs. Miller.

5 Excuse me just a minute.

6 MRS. MILLER: Yes, uh-huh.

7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Mr. (indiscernible), would you
8 ask those people to be quiet, please? I'm sorry
9 to interrupt you, but, uh - -

10 MRS. MILLER: No problem.

11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

12 MRS. MILLER: Now, we wonder about teens gambling
13 and I wonder, also, and I'm sure not all of it's done in
14 casinos, 'cause how can they get in? And floating boats
15 looks like to me they'd be less apt to get in, but it is a
16 proven fact that in areas where there is gambling, it seems
17 that, maybe because it is the accepted thing, teens also
18 are doing the same thing. Now, I did find that forty-six
19 percent of teens mention some form of borrowing in
20 connection with gambling. 2.4 percent have borrowed from
21 their unsuspecting bosses. I'm sure they have the
22 intention to pay it back, but it doesn't usually happen
23 that way. Teens are twice more apt to become problem
24 gamblers than adults are and ninety-six percent of all of
25 our adult problem gamblers began gambling as a teen. In



1 Illinois, six to eight percent of their teenagers are now
2 problem gamblers.

3 So, I guess what I'd like to say to remind you is
4 that this referendum passed by a hundred and sixty-seven
5 votes. We don't need these potential problems in our
6 community and we don't need the boat in Switzerland County.
7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Okay. Andy Sims
9 has asked to be moved up on our agenda. Is he
10 present at the present time?

11 ANDY SIMS: Are we going to have a break or
12 anything like that?

13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Beg your pardon?

14 ANDY SIMS: Is there not going to be a break or
15 anything?

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: No, we're going straight
17 through.

18 ANDY SIMS: Okay. Thank you for the opportunity
19 to speak today. I've been opposed from the outset to
20 gambling in any form in any county. No referendum or
21 legislative act can make gambling the right thing to do.
22 It is morally and ethically wrong to risk the welfare of
23 gamblers, their families and our communities for the sake
24 of raising revenue. We can pretend that those negatives
25 won't be so bad or the money is too good to pass up, but



1 the truth haunts us; it just isn't right.

2 But that's not why we're here today. The
3 question today is, what counties should be granted a
4 gambling license. It's not about jobs or downtown
5 development or even revenue sharing. Every county has
6 those same hopes and dreams. But if that boat is misplaced
7 and does more harm than good, there will be no revenues.
8 In your discretion is the choice.

9 Ohio County is not prepared to absorb the influx
10 of multi-million dollar complex and it's demands upon our
11 resources, city services and self-government. I'm not
12 afraid of change, but offering an industry that's laced
13 with corruption and built upon deceit uncontested power
14 over our small town is frightening. Let me give you four
15 examples of how this imbalance of power poses a real threat
16 to Rising Sun.

17 First, it's going to drain our resources. Our
18 electric, water and sewage are all maxxed out now. The
19 schools need to expand to cover increased enrollment. That
20 proves, number one, that our town is not dead, like we've
21 been lead to believe in order to scare us into accepting
22 gambling, but it also shows that years of planning and
23 construction are necessary before we can handle significant
24 growth without jeopardizing our community. I used to live
25 in a town that developed too quickly, and so every other



1 weekend in the summer we had no water at our home.
2 Expansion of the water supply took years. Will gambling
3 companies promise to delay operations until these issues
4 are resolved? No, that problem is our's and we aren't
5 going to solve it overnight.

6 Second, more than half of our entire county will
7 be owned by one corporation . . . half. The assessed
8 value of Ohio County is twenty-one million, four hundred
9 and fifty thousand dollars. The proposed gambling projects
10 will have an assessed value of over twenty-six million
11 dollars. That's not fitting in; it's taking over. Will
12 the concerns of a typical homeowner be given a fair
13 hearing?

14 What leverage will we have if they don't keep
15 their promises? Last month, our city leaders tried to play
16 hardball with one of the gambling companies over some
17 unresolved lawsuits. Nice try, but we were out of our
18 league. In less than a month, we backed down.

19 Their only goal is to make money. It is a
20 business. But a city isn't supposed to be just buildings
21 or boats or bottom lines. It's people. And if one
22 corporation can cast it's shadow over an entire county, the
23 people will be the ones that are left in the dark.

24 Third, the voice of our small town will be hard
25 to hear. The referendum over gambling was supposed to be



1 to let the counties decide, yet the gambling companies
2 spent over sixty thousand dollars on that election,
3 compared to about two thousand raised by the opposition
4 from within the county. They've hired P.R. firms to coach
5 their speakers for this hearing and others. There's no
6 telling how much they would be willing to spend to lobby
7 for their issues in Indianapolis. Do you really think the
8 voice of Ohio County is being heard?

9 Tomorrow you're going to see one gambling
10 company's billboard that stood in flagrant violation of our
11 zoning code for two years. Today they got a temporary
12 permit, not to please us, but to impress you for tomorrow.

13 Funds for road work keep getting diverted for
14 more important locations we're told. We don't seem to be
15 big enough to get anyone's attention, but suddenly you are
16 interested in us? We're small, but we're not foolish.
17 We're being used.

18 Finally, our town's population on any given day
19 will double or even triple. You can only imagine how
20 overcrowded our town of just twenty-five hundred people
21 will be. It's a numbers game. The negative impact is
22 multiplied because we are so small to begin with. What
23 happens when crime, compulsive gambling, drunk driving,
24 emergency and welfare assistance, family counselling,
25 traffic and safety issues are tripled or even worse in our



1 small county? And inconvenience to larger towns is a
2 crisis for us. Common sense tells you the smallest county
3 in Indiana can't handle this influx. Ohio County is the
4 wrong choice.

5 Let me end by saying, I believed in Rising Sun
6 First before there were T-shirts. They've got the wrong
7 name. For them, gambling is first, but if Rising Sun is
8 forced to compete against a multi-million dollar
9 corporation it will end up getting second best. Please
10 don't let them sell our town's quaint riverfront character.
11 We're a great little town; we're not a gambling town.
12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I probably should
14 have announced to the group that we have switched
15 from Switzerland County, which, of course, up
16 here we all have agendas and understand what's
17 happening, but for the audience, we have switched
18 from Switzerland County to Ohio County, and Mr.
19 Sims had to be put forward because he had an
20 emergency type situation.

21 MR. SIMS: I appreciate your flexibility.

22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.

23 QUESTION BY DAVID ROSS: Mr. Sims, what is your
24 position at Rising Sun?

25 MR. SIMS: I'm the minister of the Rising Sun



1 Church of Christ there.

2 MR. ROSS: Thank you.

3 MR. SIMS: Other questions? Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I guess I should
5 thank the people who made the presentations for
6 Switzerland County. It was most informative and
7 we certainly appreciate your coming down, because
8 without that kind of input, we really don't get
9 the flavor of the situation and we do thank you.

10 And so we'll move on now to Ohio County, which I
11 should have announced before, and the rest of the
12 people who will be on our agenda this morning are
13 concerned with Ohio County. Debbie Foutty? I'm
14 sorry to have pushed you down from the first
15 position, but, uh - -

16 DEBBIE FOUTTY: That's fine. That's fine.

17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Reverend Sims said he had
18 something.

19 DEBBIE FOUTTY: We spoke out there and that was
20 absolutely fine.

21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.

22 DEBBIE FOUTTY: Good morning.

23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Welcome.

24 DEBBIE FOUTTY: My name is Debbie Foutty. I have
25 to admit, I'm a little nervous with this today. I'm not a



1 public speaker. But I am here to talk to you today about
2 a topic that's very important to me and very important to
3 our community. I'd like to focus on Rising Sun First and
4 how a riverboat project will help us to redevelop Main
5 Street businesses. I'm a mother of four young children, a
6 member of the local school board, and Assistant Manager of
7 the Madison Bank and Trust Company in downtown Rising Sun.
8 I've been with the bank for fourteen years. In that
9 regard, I'm one of the luckiest people in town, since I
10 don't have to leave to work at my job. Most people who
11 live in Ohio County have to go elsewhere to work. We're
12 hoping a riverboat and it's accompanying destination resort
13 will help us to change that. In my spare time, I'm the
14 president of the group of people known as Rising Sun First.
15 You may have noticed one or two of us in the audience
16 today. You may have seen us at past Indiana Gaming
17 Commission meetings. We've done alot of listening so far,
18 but today's our chance to tell you about our city and what
19 we know to be a wonderful economic development opportunity.

20 Rising Sun First is an organization that consists
21 of people from our city and county and counties around us.
22 We have members from both major political parties and
23 probably a few minor parties, from different economic
24 levels and all kinds of occupations. Originally we were
25 just a group of people who kept each other informed about



1 the riverboat issue, but the more we learned about the
2 possibilities for Rising Sun, the more we became enthused.
3 It's an amazing thing when people in a community begin to
4 work together. Many of us worked to help pass the
5 riverboat referendum in Ohio County and I'm proud to say
6 our county had the highest percentage turnout in the state
7 and the best percentage of victory on the Ohio River.
8 After the referendum we recognized that we still had much
9 to learn about the project and that there was a strong need
10 for ongoing public education, both in the area and
11 throughout the state. Most people in Indiana don't know
12 about Rising Sun. In fact, I would bet that many on the
13 Commission and staff didn't know about Rising Sun at first.
14 So we decided to formalize our organization as a means of
15 raising our profile and public awareness.

16 The group's name came naturally, in that Rising
17 Sun was the first to formally request a referendum after
18 the General Assembly passed the riverboat law and given the
19 fact that we firmly believe our project can and will be the
20 first to be up and running. The effort has mobilized the
21 whole community. Rising Sun First has grown to include
22 more than four hundred people from all over Southeast
23 Indiana.

24 Our first big project as an organization was to
25 start a letter writing campaign - you may have seen a few



1 of them.

2 To learn more about riverboat's affects on
3 communities the group has taken the initiative to visit
4 other existing sites. Those visits have helped us to find
5 both what we want and what we don't want from the
6 development. We want to make sure this development
7 reflects our goals for the community. For example, the
8 project needs to be tied into the community in a way that
9 ties it in with the city's tradition and potential, as
10 opposed to it being an isolated site. We want to make sure
11 the project contributes value to Rising Sun that would last
12 beyond the life of the riverboat, building what we believe
13 will be a viable new industry for Southeastern Indiana,
14 tourism.

15 We're not trying to turn Rising Sun into Las
16 Vegas or Atlantic City. In truth, I don't know anyone here
17 who would want that. If solid guidelines and controls are
18 put in place from the beginning, we believe that riverboats
19 can and will serve as a development tool to help this city
20 succeed.

21 If this city and the new riverboat and
22 destination resort are to succeed, the project must
23 contribute to the redevelopment of our downtown,
24 particularly Main Street. As I mentioned earlier, I work
25 at the bank on Main Street in Rising Sun. Also, my



1 husband has a photography business that's located on Main
2 Street. We have a particular interest in seeing the
3 downtown revitalized.

4 Rising Sun used to be a center of commerce and
5 industry, largely because of the Ohio River. As river
6 traffic declined - the new roads and railroads passed us
7 by - those businesses left. With them went jobs and the
8 economic vitality of the town. We've watched far too many
9 buildings deteriorate into disuse over the years. While
10 fewer people came downtown, businesses closed and down
11 spiral continues unabated.

12 Main Street is the heart of the city. For that
13 reason, it is vital that the riverboat development be
14 situated so as to keep our downtown healthy. Rising Sun
15 has structured all requirement for the gaming companies in
16 a way that will ensure that the benefits of this
17 development extend beyond the gaming facility itself. We
18 envision an amphitheater entertainment center at the foot
19 of Main Street with frequent trolley service connecting the
20 gaming resort and downtown area. Whichever gaming company
21 is licensed in Rising Sun will contribute a substantial
22 amount of funding that will be used to refurbish Main
23 Street businesses. Again, let me emphasize that we have no
24 intention of turning our city into a glitzy, neon
25 splattered gambling mecca.



1 All of our research indicates that a destination
2 resort three blocks from downtown will help us build a
3 solid base of tourism. With the many commercial
4 opportunities that will accompany this influx of people we
5 will revitalize Rising Sun and Ohio County. We have a nice
6 city, but we need to keep the city alive. We hope you will
7 share our vision. When you make the decision on licensing
8 riverboats for Southeast Indiana, please remember Rising
9 Sun First. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Any questions?
11 Okay. Thank you very much. I guess I should
12 reiterate for those who may have come in later
13 and who are going to be speakers that we have
14 this system. You have five minutes to speak and
15 we are trying to hold to that. When you get down
16 to where you only have one minute left, we have
17 a yellow card that comes up - - and the ladies
18 down at this end of the table are the ones with
19 the flash cards. When you're clear out of time,
20 you'll get a red, and at that point in time I'd
21 certainly appreciate you finishing up and
22 concluding it, because it will keep us so that we
23 can hear all of the people that want to address.
24 Okay. Mr. Dorrell, is that correct?
25 JIM DORRELL: My name is Jim Dorrell. I'm from



1 Rising Sun, Indiana. Mr. Chairman, Members of the
2 Committee and staff, thank you for this opportunity to
3 speak on a project that is very important to me and to the
4 voters of Ohio County. I have lived in Ohio County for
5 eighty-five years. I have taught school for thirty-five
6 years, retiring in 1974. I have been a member of the
7 Rotary Club for forty years. I have been a member of the
8 Masonic Lodge for over fifty years. I have been very
9 active in community affairs, President of the Ohio County
10 Historical Society for the last twenty years, County
11 Historian, published four books on Ohio County and donated
12 the proceeds to the Ohio County Historical Society. With
13 this background, I feel that I am familiar with Ohio
14 County, it's past, it's present, it's ups, it's downs and
15 it's needs.

16 Ohio County is strictly a bedroom community. Any
17 prosperity we enjoy is not because of local jobs, but due
18 to those people working in other areas. Many of those
19 people have expressed a desire to have the opportunity to
20 work in their own community and opportunities for their
21 children when they grow up. Years ago local industry saw
22 this problem, local industry and agriculture. Today we
23 have no industry. Today we have less than ten full-time
24 farmers in Ohio County. We need jobs of all sorts. We
25 need professional jobs. We need jobs for those people that



1 are skilled workers. We need jobs for those people with
2 minimal skills.

3 Point two, Rising Sun High School has always had
4 a high percentage of graduates attending college. Today we
5 have five people in Rising Sun who have graduated from the
6 Rising Sun High School and college and returned to Rising
7 Sun for a livelihood. Where are the rest of those people?
8 This year seventy-four students will graduate from the
9 Rising Sun High School. Sixty percent will go to college
10 or schools of higher learning. That leaves forty percent
11 for employment in Rising Sun or thirty students. We have
12 the IGA Grocery, we have the Dairy Queen and we have Jack's
13 Restaurant.

14 Point three, the community needs revenue for it's
15 schools, for it's fire department, for it's emergency unit,
16 for it's roads, for it's streets, for it's sidewalks. The
17 high school building is thirty-six years old and we will be
18 needing a new high school building in a short time.

19 I am looking beyond this project for additional
20 aid to Ohio County. I am looking for tourism, housing
21 development, industry, new businesses. In fact, I am
22 looking for every empty building on Main Street to be
23 occupied by a successful and growing business. This
24 revitalization project for Rising Sun, Ohio County, will
25 not only benefit our area, but will benefit the surrounding



1 communities.

2 Let me make this clear, perfectly clear, I have
3 nothing to gain. Others will have the opportunities for
4 themselves and their families and their children, even
5 maybe some of our lost talent will return to Rising Sun.
6 For over a hundred and fifty years the river brought us
7 prosperity, jobs, progress. Maybe that river will do that
8 again.

9 In closing, I'm eighty-five years of age.
10 Chances are I won't be around to see this project ended.
11 Unless I happen to get hit with a golfball I expect to be
12 around here, but I would like to be around here to see this
13 project adopted. I want to see our community and area a
14 beehive of activity, not a Rip Van Winkle retreat. Thank
15 you.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Uh, Fred Ross?

17 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOCHNOWSKI: You can go ahead.

18 FRED ROSS: Okay. Thank you for allowing me this
19 opportunity to present my thoughts to you this morning. My
20 name is Fred Ross. I've lived in Rising Sun, Ohio County,
21 for twenty-three years. I'm here today as a private
22 citizen and recent past mayor of the City of Rising Sun.

23 I understand, as former mayor, how important it
24 is for the city to provide for the health and safety of
25 it's citizens and how vital it is to constantly try to



1 create economic and employment opportunities in the
2 community. I would like to talk to you about the economic
3 and employment opportunities that would be created by
4 placing a riverboat gaming development in Rising Sun. In
5 particular, I would like to begin by telling you a little
6 bit about how we've prepared for this project.

7 As the legislature made riverboats a reality in
8 Indiana, citizens in Rising Sun recognized what a
9 tremendous opportunity such a development would create for
10 the Ohio County area and began work to make it a reality in
11 our own community. Rising Sun put together a task force to
12 analyze the issues involved and to ensure an orderly and
13 informative public process would help the city and county
14 prepare. Rising Sun was the first site to seek a
15 referendum. It passed the highest winning percentage of
16 any Ohio River county. Our community and county came
17 together in many ways. Rising Sun First - you may have
18 noticed them upon occasion - became active in maintaining
19 public support. A redevelopment committee was formed to
20 make necessary plans for the project. Zoning, planning,
21 revenue distribution, license and regulation all have been
22 thoroughly discussed in open city-county forums. In the
23 course of our preparations, we put together a vision plan
24 for the city. The plan, assembled after input from
25 citizens throughout the county, has been invaluable in



1 making sure that we are ready for this development. Rising
2 Sun has been doing and will continue to do our homework.
3 This economic development project is vital for Southeast
4 Indiana, the scope of the development being a true
5 destination resort complex, the way it integrates with
6 downtown creating opportunities for new businesses and it's
7 potential for employment opportunities will create a
8 project that will outlast the advent of competition from
9 surrounding states. This project will help us bring in an
10 industry that can benefit all of southeast Indiana - -
11 tourism.

12 Since the beginning of the riverboat process we
13 have faced many obstacles, both perceived and real. In
14 each case we have met them head on. The latest issue is
15 State Road 56. Can it handle the traffic volume safely?
16 Three traffic engineering firms and the Indiana Department
17 of Transportation say it can, but our community leaders
18 decided to look into an upgrade and found that the state
19 does not have any plans, so we began to explore methods of
20 doing it ourselves. In a meeting with the Indiana
21 Department of Transportation officials it was found the
22 process could be cut from five years to one if Rising Sun
23 takes the lead. Indiana Department of Transportation's
24 estimate estimate that for approximately three hundred
25 thousand dollars for mile, the road can be brought up to R-

1 3 standards. Our community leaders are committed; whatever
2 it takes to raise this money and get this job done, we will
3 do it. It will be the top priority for us.

4 As a former mayor of Rising Sun, I can fully
5 understand our four county area's needs. We need jobs and
6 economic opportunity. We all need to upgrade our
7 infrastructure. We need to prepare for the future.
8 Luckily, we are blessed with a tremendous group of people
9 who have pulled together as a team to meet those needs. We
10 are getting ready for the future and we hope that the
11 future will include downtown redevelopment, tourism,
12 heightened commercial and recreational opportunities, and
13 yes, ladies and gentlemen, a riverboat development.

14 Based on our initial studies that have been done
15 and based on other studies, analysis and current and future
16 needs and capabilities, this economic development project
17 fills our needs and furthurs the goals of the State of
18 Indiana, the southeast portion of the state and the
19 citizens of Rising Sun and Ohio County. And I thank you
20 again for your time and your attention. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

22 QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Excuse me. Do you
23 have - - What is the length of this road
24 between Aurora and Rising Sun?

25 FRED ROSS: About approximately nine miles.



1 QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: So 56 has a nine
2 mile stretch on this map?

3 FRED ROSS: Well, yes, but now from the county
4 line, from the Ohio County line to Rising Sun is
5 seven miles approximately.

6 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Any other questions? Thank
7 you. Bob White? Good morning.

8 ROBERT WHITE: Good morning. First I'd like to
9 thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. My
10 name is Robert White. Though this is a hearing for
11 riverboat gaming, I view this as a hearing about the
12 survival of the City of Rising Sun and Ohio County, a topic
13 I care very much about. I come before you today, like many
14 people in a small town, wearing multiple hats.

15 As a longtime resident, I have lived in Ohio
16 County since 1967, and Southeastern Indiana all my life.
17 I care about maintaining the unique character and
18 atmosphere of this community.

19 As a parent, I care about ensuring that this city
20 stays a decent place to live and raise a family and I care
21 about making sure our educational system turns out quality
22 graduates with quality economic opportunities right here in
23 Southeastern Indiana.

24 As a teacher for the past twenty-seven years and
25 after twenty-two years of coaching, I care about the chance



1 to broaden our educational opportunities, so that our
2 students can get more than just the basics. That takes the
3 sort of funding that we simply don't have. When the
4 building needs repairs, when equipment breaks down, it's
5 all we can do to catch up. We can't encourage excellence
6 that way. Also, I care about seeing that our kids have
7 good jobs after graduation. These days our students
8 graduate from high school and never return to Ohio County.

9 As a member of the planning commission and the
10 zoning board of appeals, I care about how this city and
11 county prepare for the future. Rising Sun has always
12 talked about getting new industries and businesses and
13 we've tried, but this project is the most viable
14 opportunity and offers more promise than anything we've
15 considered. I want to make sure that our city has a
16 future. I want to make sure that we are taking the steps
17 we need to make that future a reality.

18 From a business standpoint, we've been slowly
19 disappearing. From the infrastructure standpoint, the
20 city's needs are growing while our means of addressing
21 those needs are shrinking.

22 So early on we began evaluating this project in
23 light of where we, as a city, are right now, where we want
24 to be and whether this was a viable means of maintaining
25 and improving our situation. We approached this as a



1 business decision cautiously, having seen the potential for
2 both good and bad affects on other communities.

3 From the beginning, we formed a redevelopment
4 commission, whose sole purpose was to guide future growth
5 and in the light of the scale of this project, control
6 interactions with the gaming company. In fact, the
7 contract was worked out with the remaining companies
8 specifically includes the redevelopment committee as an
9 active participant, in addition to the city and the port
10 authority. We put together a vision plan to guide our
11 efforts. With professional assistance, we held multiple
12 meetings at our high school gaining input from a wide
13 variety of Rising Sun, Ohio County residents. Thirty to
14 fifty people at any given time prioritized a list of
15 community concerns and developed solid steps to meet those
16 needs. We recognize, for example, that our current part-
17 time government would be inadequate to deal with a huge
18 economic development project and made plans to add full-
19 time positions, including a redevelopment commissioner,
20 building inspector, tourism director and clerk-treasurer.
21 We evaluated our utility situation and our needs, both with
22 and without this project. We examined our community goals
23 for the project and determined that our development must
24 mesh with and compliment our efforts to develop tourism and
25 downtown redevelopment.



1 Our evaluation of this project's suitability
2 included a study of the potential site situated only three
3 blocks from downtown Rising Sun. The proposed site, with
4 a potential of up to four hundred acres, is high out of the
5 floor plain. In fact, it is the highest flat land between
6 Cincinnati and Evansville. Utilities are adjacent to the
7 site. The wetland determination map developed by the Soil
8 Conservation Service does not indicate the presence of any
9 wetland. The Indiana Natural Heritage Data Base shows no
10 endangered, threatened or rare species on the site.

11 From a river safety point of view, the concerns
12 include shifts in the crest of the Ohio during period of
13 flooding, strong currents, floating debris and ice. The
14 first three are associated with spring rains and the latter
15 with winter. These concerns are alleviated by mooring the
16 vessel in a backwater harbor off the river of the depth
17 adequate to handle the rise and fall of the Ohio.

18 Admittedly, I'm no expert in these matters, but
19 from what I know and have learned, if there's a better site
20 location on the Ohio River, I haven't seen it. As a result
21 of our steady approach to evaluating and preparing for this
22 project, our zoning and park board commissions have been
23 reenergized. City and county representatives have been
24 meeting and cooperating on a regular basis for the past six
25 months. We are developing a comprehensive plan that

1 reflects what we have learned about our city, it's needs
2 and capabilities. We know that our work is still cut out
3 for us. As we try to prepare ourselves for this
4 development and it's affect on our city, so we are
5 continuing to hold meetings - - we are continuing to hold
6 meetings on a monthly basis for all concerned citizens in
7 the community and the county. On the first Sunday of the
8 month at the Historical Building any and all people are
9 welcomed to continue the community dialogue. We know that
10 this development opportunity with it's potential for
11 redevelopment in Rising Sun and it's potential for opening
12 up a whole new area of business in this corner of the state
13 fits with where we want to be in the future. What we've
14 learned is that we can pull together as a community, and we
15 have and we will continue to take steps to get ready.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Mr. White, are you - -

17 ROBERT WHITE: We will be prepared. I feel
18 confident that Ohio County and the City of Rising Sun can
19 control this project. As a teacher, I can say we've done
20 our homework. Please make Rising Sun first. Thank you.

21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, thank you. I have a
22 quick question. As I indicated to the people
23 from Switzerland County, it's important that you
24 do have county wide zoning if you get into
25 situation, because when the Genie gets out of the

1 bottle, you can't put it back.

2 MR. WHITE: We have both a county board and a
3 city board.

4 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: And they have
5 jurisdiction county wide?

6 MR. WHITE: Both of them have.

7 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: So you're
8 satisfied that you'll be able to control the
9 development?

10 MR. WHITE: Very much so.

11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.

12 MR. WHITE: I think the city will have all that -
13 - and the county in their plans next month for
14 you to see.

15 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, well - - I'm more
16 worried about the people from our standpoint
17 that's, uh - - Okay. Anybody else have
18 anything? Thank you very much. Dick Hastings?

19 DICK HASTINGS: Good morning, Mr. Chairman - -

20 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Good morning.

21 DICK HASTINGS: - - and members of the Indiana
22 Gaming Commission. Thank you for giving me this
23 opportunity to speak with you today. As you know, Mr.
24 Degnan was scheduled to speak, but due to complications he
25 was unable to be here. My name is Dick Hastings. I'm from



1 Rising Sun, Indiana. I am a member of the Ohio County Port
2 Authority and a lifelong resident of Ohio County. I know
3 the river very well. As a young boy, I had my share of
4 skinny dipping in the river and for a number of years,
5 total it twenty, I commercial fished the Ohio River up and
6 down the banks of Ohio County. Our stretch of river has
7 always been very special, not just to me, but countless
8 people who live in Rising Sun and Ohio County today.

9 When this area first settled back in the 1800's,
10 the river created a growth surge only surpassed by
11 Cincinnati in the midwest. Several riverboats were built
12 in Rising Sun. Tons of grain and produce were shipped out
13 of Rising Sun for the western and southern ports each year.

14 That growth abruptly stopped due to various
15 circumstances, but now Southeastern Indiana has a chance to
16 totally revitalize itself again due to our river, our site
17 and Rising Sun's geographic location. Our river is wide,
18 it's deep. It creates opportunity for a true cruise
19 experience. The river is between eighteen hundred and two
20 thousand feet wide through the area and pretty much a
21 straight north and south shot. With the range of a hundred
22 and fifty feet to five hundred feet, we do not have any
23 boundary problems with Kentucky that you have seen
24 elsewhere along the Ohio River. Our site is the highest
25 location between Cincinnati and Evansville.

1 Geographically, Rising Sun is located ideally to capture a
2 maximum benefit of Southeast Indiana, as well as for the
3 State of Indiana. Unlike other locations, Rising Sun is
4 ideally situated to create a true destination resort
5 complex. Dearborn, Ripley, and Switzerland County, as well
6 as other southeastern counties will benefit because of
7 Rising Sun's location, not in spite of it. Back to the
8 river, all initial studies would indicate that the
9 location, Rising Sun, Indiana, will be the easiest
10 permittable site anywhere along the Ohio River and perhaps
11 any gaming locale in the state. Primary investigations
12 indicate that there are no ecological problems,
13 environmental problems, wetland problems, archaeology
14 problems, cruise problems - - no problems.

15 In conclusion, select Rising Sun first because of
16 it's site advantage, because of it's revenue sharing
17 advantage, offering Switzerland, Dearborn, Ripley and Ohio
18 Counties, and the following cities and towns: Vevay,
19 Patriot, Lawrenceburg, Holton, Osgood, Napoleon, Milan,
20 Sunman, Aurora, Dillsboro, West Harrison, St. Leon, Moores
21 Hill, Greendale and, yes, even Lawrenceburg, if for some
22 reason they can't get a boat. And because of Rising Sun's
23 vision of a true destination resort complex, our community
24 is - - our community, with it's comprehensive planning in
25 all areas, clearly demonstrates Rising Sun is ready, able,



1 capable of handling a project of this magnitude benefitting
2 all citizens and the State of Indiana.

3 I thank you and hope you all have a mighty fine
4 day.

5 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you and same to you.

6 Anyone have anything to ask Mr. Hastings? Mr.
7 Wiesmann?

8 HOWARD WIESMANN: Mr. Chairman and Members of the
9 Gaming Commission, my name is Howard Wiesmann. I'm a co-
10 owner of a business in Ohio County, A & W Milling,
11 Incorporated. I've been here since 1954. I'm also a
12 Director of Vevay Deposit Bank, Vevay, for the past twenty-
13 five years. I've lived in Ohio County for forty-six years.
14 I've been on County Council for twenty-six years and I know
15 firsthand how hard it is to budget and how to balance a
16 budget in a small county like Ohio County.

17 Perception of Rising Sun, I've heard alot of talk
18 about it's too small. Well, it's not too small. We've got
19 one of the best sites for riverboat gaming that there is up
20 and down the Ohio River. So we are - - When this
21 project came up, the first thing we did is there's got to
22 be alot of planning done and we got together with the - -
23 the city got together with the county and we formed a task
24 force to see what needed to be done and from the city's
25 vision plan, we decided some of the things that we had to



1 do, that we couldn't just go into this and not plan and
2 know what we was gonna do with the revenues that would
3 possibly come in from the riverboat gaming.

4 And when this thing came about, the assessed
5 valuation of Ohio County was nineteen to twenty million
6 dollars, with less than a million dollar general fund.
7 That's not much money to work with. Granted, we are
8 growing. It's a little larger now than it was then. But
9 I served on that task force and we looked at the vision
10 plans that the city had created, listened to the concerns
11 which the citizens had expressed in monthly community
12 meetings and looked down the road for what the city and
13 county would need immediately and long term, as well. The
14 needs we identified was many. But one, alot of cities and
15 counties can't work together, but I can tell you that Ohio
16 County and the City of Rising Sun work very well together.
17 So after looking at the vision plan, we decided that we
18 needed to use forty percent of the boarding fees, etcetera,
19 for infrastructure to build and expand and maintain. We
20 also recognized that without riverboat gaming some of these
21 things that we're talking about that we're going to have to
22 do because of it would have to be done anyway and you've
23 got a hard time doing it on the type of budget that Ohio
24 County has been operating on. But forty percent for
25 infrastructure, ten percent for schools, one percent for



1 library, four percent to the city, county positions that
2 would be expanded or added, ten percent to law enforcement,
3 one percent for fire protection and life squad, and twenty-
4 three percent for contingency. I've been around a long
5 time to know that you just don't spend every buck that
6 comes in; you've got to prepare for contingencies. The
7 people that was on this task force was two from the county,
8 two from the city and one from the school. And we worked
9 this formulation out and think that it is one that will
10 work.

11 Also, when you talk about law enforcing, we don't
12 have a jail in Ohio County. Someday we may be forced to
13 have another jail. We had one many years ago and it
14 wouldn't come up to state standards and so we closed it.

15 As you can see, as I told you, I've got close
16 ties to Vevay, because I'm director of the bank and I've
17 got very close ties to Ohio County, because I'm a County
18 Councilman. I know alot of friends and relatives that live
19 in Dearborn County. I'm not here to tell you why you
20 shouldn't give it to Switzerland County or why you
21 shouldn't give it to Dearborn, but I'm here to tell you why
22 Ohio County deserves to get it.

23 I'm not a gambler by nature. When I first heard
24 about the possibility of riverboats, I thought, no way, we
25 don't need that in Ohio County, but after I learned more



1 about it - - learned more about what we are doing to get
2 ready for it and met some people involved, I changed my
3 mind entirely. I'm looking at this for the future and I
4 don't for a minute presume to be able to predict that
5 future, but I can tell you this about the future: we're
6 ready, working to get ready - - we're already working to
7 get ready for this project in Ohio County. Here's what I
8 can tell you about Rising Sun and Ohio County: we care,
9 we're accountable, we're honest, we're hardworking, we're
10 ready for a riverboat project. Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Any questions?

12 Okay. We have Tom McKay.

13 TOM MCKAY: Good morning.

14 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Good morning.

15 TOM MCKAY: My name is Tom McKay and first I'd
16 like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to come to
17 you with my comments in support of this issuance. I'm
18 currently the Chief of Police in Rising Sun. I was born a
19 resident of this county, grew up and went to school here.
20 I graduated from the school across the street in 1970,
21 which incidentally was about the time that Sheriff Johnson
22 was scouring this county looking for those contacts he had
23 to have. (Laughter) But I've been a resident of Ohio
24 County now for about ten years. I have a wife and two
25 sons. I was employed by the Rising Sun Police Department



1 in 1987 and have been the Chief of Police since September
2 of '93.

3 In asking for this opportunity today, I wrote the
4 Commission and asked to express my views from a law
5 enforcement perspective. Ohio County is the smallest in
6 the state, both in size and population, with an area of
7 about ninety square miles and a population, according to
8 the last census, of approximately fifty-four hundred
9 people.

10 At present, we have fifteen law enforcement
11 officers living in the county: our sheriff and four
12 deputies; myself and four police officers; two Indiana
13 State Troopers; and three Indiana Conservation Officers.
14 Both the Ohio County Sheriff's Department and the Rising
15 Sun Police Department have recently added an officer due to
16 the help of the crime bill and the money that's been added
17 through that and we're instituting community policing.

18 On per capita basis, we have a law enforcement
19 officer for about every three hundred and sixty persons in
20 our county. From my perspective as the chief of police, I
21 believe that initial influx of traffic related problems
22 that might occur during the construction phase of any
23 proposed project that we would be ready and able to accept
24 this challenge, maybe a little bit better than some of the
25 neighboring communities. Dearborn County has a population



1 of nearly forty thousand people and approximately sixty law
2 enforcement officers for a per capita of about one to six
3 hundred and seventy persons. Switzerland County has a
4 population of about seven thousand persons and I believe
5 ten law enforcement officers for about a one to seven
6 hundred ratio. With the proposed project site for this
7 county being up the river and outside the town of Vevay,
8 this would limit the effective assistance abilities of the
9 Vevay Police Department.

10 Since January, I've been participating in joint
11 meetings held each month of a group of city and county
12 leaders and at these meetings we have talked at length
13 about issues which will have an impact upon each of our
14 respective departments, organizations and daily lives of
15 our citizens in an attempt to be more prepared to meet the
16 challenges of the gaming project here.

17 As part of this project, myself and Chief Deputy
18 Rodney Rimstidt of the Ohio County Sheriff's Department
19 drove to Metropolis, Illinois, to see for ourselves what
20 changes we might expect - - and Metropolis is a small
21 town, somewhat like Rising Sun, a little larger, but with
22 many of the same characteristics. While we were there, we
23 spoke with the Police Chief, the Sheriff of the county, the
24 Chief of Security for the gaming company, and spent several
25 hours riding with Metropolis police officers on routine

1 patrol. During this time on patrol, the only call we got
2 was a loud music call in an apartment complex. We were
3 assured by these enforcement officials that while they had
4 seen some increase in traffic related problems, criminal
5 activity had shown no marked increase. We saw no long
6 lines of traffic, no traffic jams, and, in general, a small
7 town peaceful atmosphere there.

8 A recent inhouse study of our Rising Sun Police
9 Department shows that we have a considerable amount of
10 routine patrol time, which we could use to commit to
11 solving any increase in traffic or criminal problems that
12 might occur. The criminal problems in the outlying areas
13 of the county being relatively low, and with nearly half
14 the population of the county living within the city of
15 Rising Sun, where the project would be located, we will be
16 better able to commit increased manpower to the project
17 area if the need arises.

18 Rising Sun, Ohio County, has other public safety
19 agencies, namely fire, EMS and civil defense, which each
20 have many well trained, dedicated volunteers that give of
21 themselves on a daily basis in order to make Ohio County
22 and the City of Rising Sun a better place to live and to
23 raise their families.

24 Our proposed site, undoubtedly the most beautiful
25 in the tri-county area, lends itself to the future



1 development of other types of economic growth once a gaming
2 project forms the cornerstone that we can build on.

3 Within the last two years, the Rising Sun Police
4 Department and the Ohio County Sheriff's Department have
5 taken steps to work together towards being prepared for the
6 future. One of these steps was putting both of our
7 departments into the same building where we'll work closer
8 together, so that we can meet the needs of the public. And
9 we have trained three men in child abuse investigations to
10 deal with domestic problems and we also have added a dual
11 purpose K-9 for drug interdiction work. I'm confident, as
12 well as is Sheriff Fancher, that we are prepared to meet
13 whatever challenges we may face as a result of the gaming
14 project in our county.

15 I truly believe that Ohio County and the City of
16 Rising Sun have shown exemplary effort in pulling together
17 to plan for the future and I ask you, the Indiana Gaming
18 Commission, to reward our dedication by issuing a gaming
19 license to Ohio County. Thank you very much.

20 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Chief. What's the
21 population of Ohio County?

22 MR. MCKAY: About fifty-four hundred, according
23 to the last census.

24 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.

25 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: I have a question,

1 Chief. If, in fact, Ohio County doesn't receive
2 a license and the other two counties on the other
3 side of you do, is there any anticipated source
4 of revenue to increase the manpower within your
5 department to handle any additional problems,
6 even though this wouldn't be a riverboat county?

7 MR. MCKAY: Not that I'm aware of at this time.
8 If there is, I haven't been made aware of it.

9 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: But you would anticipate
10 additional manpower being necessary if the other
11 two counties received a riverboat license?

12 MR. MCKAY: I believe it would be, yes.

13 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Could I follow up on
14 that?

15 DON VOWELS: Yeah, go ahead.

16 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: If there was a riverboat
17 on each side of Ohio County, what would you
18 anticipate the impact on traffic in Ohio County
19 to be?

20 MR. MCKAY: I think we'd have a traffic increase.
21 I think we might also have an increase in our
22 population, due to the fact that our cost of
23 living may be a little lower and, uh, I think
24 that that might show some increase in some
25 domestic related problems, due to the fact that

1 you have those problems where people live, as
2 opposed to where they work. And basically, I
3 think we would see an increase in most areas over
4 a period of time.

5 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Has anybody done
6 any studies that would indicate what the
7 anticipated traffic increase for Ohio County
8 would be if they didn't receive a riverboat
9 license, but the counties on either side did?

10 MR. McKAY: I'm not sure if there are studies,
11 specifically, on that. I don't have that
12 information.

13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Anything further?
14 Thank you, Chief. Donna Bailey?

15 DONNA BAILEY: Dear Members of the Gaming
16 Commission, I am not an employee of a public relations
17 firm, not have I had the training to speak publicly, but I
18 feel compelled to speak to you today on behalf of hundreds
19 of mothers and children of Ohio County. I earnestly beg
20 you not to give Rising Sun a gambling license, for in doing
21 so you will leave a devastation greatly felt by our
22 children.

23 We are the smallest county in Indiana, but we are
24 richer than most, for our children have the freedom to walk
25 four blocks to the local library with the security of

1 getting their safely. They can walk to the riverfront park
2 and skip stones in the Ohio River without the fear of being
3 abducted. Many of our school children, even first graders,
4 walk to school unescorted with the security that they'll
5 reach their destination without being harmed. Why?
6 Because we know just about everyone there. I tell you, the
7 freedom that our children have, the bigger cities can only
8 wish for. It cannot be replaced by what proceeds the
9 gambling company will generate.

10 The gambling company says that they will give our
11 poor school money to support education. I tell you now,
12 our children are already receiving the best of education.
13 Indianapolis schools, in 1993 and '94 year, grades nine
14 through twelve, had a dropout rate of forty-three percent.
15 Rising Sun, during that year, only had a four percent
16 dropout rate, with fifty-seven percent of our seniors
17 seeking a post-high school education. Why is our dropout
18 rate low and our average of students seeking a higher
19 education? Because they had a chance to grow up and study
20 in a small school where the teachers are excellent and care
21 about them. What does our school lack? We have an
22 excellent sports program of basketball, track, baseball,
23 golf and we're adding soccer this fall. We have an
24 excellent band and music program, ranking right with the
25 bigger schools in Indiana. Our children are able to take

1 many educational field trips during the year. Our seniors
2 go on a senior trip, plus they have a prom. A lot of which
3 bigger cities have a problem doing.

4 The gambling company says it will bring jobs for
5 our children. Do we really want to teach our children to
6 prey upon the poor? The gambling people would like for us
7 to believe that only the rich gamble, but statistics show
8 that it is those people who can't fulfil the needs of their
9 family that seek the get quick rich scheme. Gambling only
10 deprives their families. The jobs that will be available
11 will be only service jobs. Those jobs are already easy to
12 obtain. I would like to encourage our children to reach a
13 higher level of employment, one that produces a product,
14 not one that takes from the poor and distributes it to the
15 more wealthy.

16 They say they will give more money for our roads,
17 sewage and law enforcement. All of this will be used to
18 combat the problems the gambling boat will bring. We don't
19 need their added problems. Our children don't need to
20 inherit a quick fix for our needed state and local funding.

21 I am troublesome reminded of a song that was
22 popular in the seventies, it went like this: Mothers, tell
23 your children not to do what I have done, spend their lives
24 in ruin and misery in the House of the Rising Sun. Isn't
25 it ironic that that song was about a gambling house and you

1 are to decide whether Rising Sun can have a gambling
2 license.

3 Please, I beg you today, don't let our children
4 inherit a pair of dice.

5 I see that I have a few more seconds left and I
6 would like - - the question was brought up about our
7 county zoning and city zoning, how strong it was. Even
8 though I feel like our county - - they are doing the best
9 they can, they allowed an illegal billboard to stay up over
10 a year. That shows that we are not prepared county zoning
11 or city zoning wide. I just feel like we can't even
12 anticipate the problems that we'll have. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Thank you. Any
14 questions? Thank you very much. Okay. Mr.
15 Finley?

16 WILLIAM J. FINLEY: I'd like to thank the Gaming
17 Commission and fellow citizens of Indiana and Ohio County
18 for the opportunity to share some concerns and facts about
19 legalized gambling.

20 In preparation for the possibility of riverboat
21 gambling in Ohio County, Sheriff Eldon Fancher shared with
22 the Ohio County FOCUS group several weeks ago that Ohio
23 County would add one deputy and there would be overlapping
24 shifts during peak times. Sheriff Fancher said that only
25 a few more DUI cases are anticipated. In addition, it has

1 been reported that Rising Sun will add one officer to it's
2 police force. It is also a fact that Ohio County has no
3 jail and prisoners are transported to neighboring counties,
4 sometimes as far away as Scottsburg.

5 Here are some documented statistics on crime rate
6 increases associated with legalized gambling. The January,
7 1995, issue of the American Family Association Journal
8 reports that in Hancock County, Mississippi, the crime rate
9 increased dramatically since gambling opened in 1992.
10 Hancock County has a population of thirty-four thousand,
11 roughly the size of Dearborn County, but it offers a valid
12 comparison of what might be in Ohio County. From the last
13 half of '93 to the first half of '94, crime increased as
14 follows in Hancock County, Mississippi. Stolen vehicles
15 went from thirteen to thirty-six, for a hundred and eighty-
16 eight percent increase. Assaults went from twenty to
17 fifty-seven, for a hundred and eighty-five percent
18 increase. Burglaries went from sixty-nine to one hundred
19 and thirty-seven, for a one hundred percent increase.
20 Thefts went from seventy-nine to two hundred and fifty-two,
21 for a two hundred and eighteen percent increase. Vandalism
22 went from forty to one sixteen, for a one hundred and
23 ninety percent increase. Child molestation went from three
24 to thirteen, for a three hundred fifty-three percent
25 increase. And last, suicide went from one to ten, for a

1 nine hundred percent increase.

2 Larger metropolitan areas in the United States
3 show similar crime rate increases. The May 23rd, 1994,
4 issue of the Christian Science Monitor reports that in
5 Atlantic City where planners and politicians thought that
6 there would be an economic renaissance with the
7 introduction of legalized gambling that the crime rate
8 tripled. The per capita crime rate went from fiftieth in
9 the nation before gambling to first after gambling.

10 Even the gambling mecca of Las Vegas has it's
11 problems. From 1960 to 1984, for those twenty-four years,
12 Las Vegas consistently ranked between first and fourth in
13 per capita crime rate.

14 Speaking generally, crime rates have increased
15 significantly in virtually every place where legalized
16 gambling, large or small, has been introduced.

17 Is Ohio County properly prepared adding one
18 deputy and one Rising Sun city police officer? I think
19 not. Could Ohio Countians be left partially or totally
20 unprotected while multiple prisoner transports take place?
21 I think it's a very realistic possibility. Even if Ohio
22 County crime rate defies statistics and there are only the
23 few DUI incidents that Sheriff Fancher anticipates, Route
24 56, our main transportation link to Dearborn County and
25 Cincinnati, which is already overcrowded, will become more

1 crowded with gambling traffic and the new DUIs. How long
2 will it be before a drunk driver takes the life of an Ohio
3 Countian? How many lives will be taken?

4 In addition to crime increase, there are other
5 problems - - sociological problems associated with
6 legalized gambling. One is compulsive gambling. Riverboat
7 officials themselves admit that where gambling is
8 introduced, four percent of the population will develop a
9 compulsive gambling problem. This amounts to two hundred
10 and sixteen Ohio Countians. The American Insurance
11 Institute estimates that forty percent of all white collar
12 crime is committed by those with serious gambling problems.
13 The Christian Science Monitor reports that the median debt
14 of the compulsive gambler ranged from fifty-three thousand
15 to ninety-three thousand dollars, and this excludes auto
16 loans and mortgages and other legitimate debt and doesn't
17 include gambling debt that's already paid off. In New
18 Jersey alone, compulsive gamblers are accumulating more
19 than five hundred million dollars of debt - - in debt
20 yearly. Other studies show that compulsive gamblers have
21 a suicide rate of five to ten times of other Americans.
22 This is evidenced by the nine hundred percent increase in
23 Hancock County, Mississippi.

24 Who will pay for all of this? Will children go
25 hungry while some of the two hundred and sixteen rob piggy

1 banks and squander paychecks trying to strike it rich?
2 Ohio County children might pay dearly. Even if the
3 anticipated economic benefits materialize, if only one
4 child goes hungry or if only one person dies on our roads
5 as a result of a gambler driving drunk, it's all not worth
6 it.

7 I encourage the Gaming Commission to carefully
8 consider this information when deciding if Ohio County will
9 be awarded a license. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.

11 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: The statistics that you
12 had were from what period of time to what period
13 of time?

14 MR. FINLEY: Which statistic?

15 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: Hancock County.

16 MR. FINLEY: Hancock County was fromt he fall of
17 1993, the last half of '93, through the first
18 half of '94 and gambling was instituted and
19 opened in 1992, in the fall of '92.

20 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: So the increase was
21 between '93 - - the fall of '93 and '94?

22 MR. FINLEY: No, sir. The increase was the last
23 half of '93 to the first half of '94.

24 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: Do you have statistics
25 for prior to when the gaming began?

1 MR. FINLEY: No, I don't have those. Those
2 weren't available.

3 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: And where were those
4 statistics - - what was the source of those
5 statistics?

6 MR. FINLEY: It was the American Family
7 Association Journal. They're from Tupelo,
8 Mississippi.

9 DON VOWELS: Alright, that's all. Thanks.

10 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Anything else? Thank you.
11 Matthew L. McKinley?

12 MATTHEW MCKINLEY: Good afternoon - - or good
13 morning. I am Matthew McKinley. I'm sixteen. I'm from
14 Rising Sun and I live at 703 Main Street and I was asked by
15 the FOCUS group to come and speak from a viewpoint of a
16 teenager.

17 Being a teen, I look at Ohio County, a very poor
18 county, with a population of around five thousand, and
19 looked at my files at the Christian Outreach Free Store and
20 see some two hundred plus needing food, clothes, furniture,
21 etcetera, and I looked at the compulsive gambling
22 statistics. Ninety-six percent of an estimated ten million
23 compulsive gamblers started before reaching the legal
24 betting age. Who suffers over the years? Their families.
25 First of all, I think of compulsive gambling as

1 a sickness, gambling being the drug that causes the
2 sickness. In the past year in Atlantic City, more teens
3 that were not even legally allowed to gamble were affected
4 by this drug than the entire adult population there in
5 1974. That scares me very much. I mean, look at these
6 statistics and think, all these teens are gambling their
7 money away, and then think, they are this county's future
8 and how worse it will become if gambling boats are placed
9 in Ohio County. As for adults, well, unless you're really
10 lucky, you usually don't gain much more than you throw
11 away. I also feel that many more families will be affected
12 greatly by this.

13 When the vote was made in Ohio County, a very
14 close friend came up to me crying and when I asked what was
15 wrong she told me that her parents had gotten in a huge
16 argument over gambling, whether it was right or wrong. She
17 told me that after the fight, they split up and they were
18 probably going to get a divorce and at this time they are
19 separated. Another friend said that their family get-
20 together ended with a huge fight and several walked out.
21 So gambling only adds to the problem of breaking up homes.
22 Do you want to break up families and, most of all, do you
23 think God wants you to break up families? There's a verse
24 in the Bible that says: If you know the good you ought to
25 do and don't do it, it's a sin. If you know you shouldn't

1 do something and do it, it's also a sin. What would God
2 do in this situation?

3 Finally, last summer I went to a Christian
4 convention and I decided to give my life to the vocational
5 ministry and about three months ago I decided what better
6 time to start and helped start a Bible study. We met two
7 times a week. After we got - - We met every day for a
8 couple weeks and then we started meeting two times a week
9 and we had about twenty with us and that was great
10 considering coming to a school where God isn't supported to
11 it's potential. But as our Bible study looks at the issue
12 of riverboat gambling, we feel even though in the world the
13 majority may rule, in God's eyes it may not be the right
14 thing to do and who comes first, God or the majority? I
15 hope this temptation doesn't come for me and my friends'
16 sake. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I guess we have
18 come to the end of our agenda. I want to thank
19 those people who came from Ohio County. As I
20 said about the people from Switzerland County,
21 it's been most informative and we're happy that
22 we were able to receive the information this
23 morning. So thank you all for coming. I
24 appreciate it very much. And we will now adjourn
25 until one o'clock, at which time we will start

1 the agenda for the Dearborn County group. Thank
2 you all.

3 (Lunch break)

4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We'll come back to order and
5 proceed with our agenda. Before we start in,
6 however, Mr. Thar, Executive Director, has the
7 late word from Indianapolis and from the
8 Legislature. Jack?

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THAR: Thank you. I need to
10 correct the records for my error this morning.
11 I'd indicated that Senate Bill 572, which is on
12 the Governor's desk, followed them by House Bill
13 1722, were the same on the cruising issue. The
14 last report I have is that they are in conflict
15 on the cruising issue, but I've been unable to
16 confirm that, so at this point in time, I'd
17 simply like the record to reflect that both bills
18 are on the Governor's desk, exactly what's in
19 1722, we're not sure right now. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: As I said before, the
21 Legislature in their wisdom . . . (laughter) We
22 are now going to take up from the presentations
23 from those persons who contacted us concerning
24 Dearborn County and I'd like to turn the gavel -
25 - and I don't physically have one - - over to

